

# THE ATHENÆUM

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No. 3757.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1899.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

## BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SESSION will be held at 22, SACKVILLE STREET, PICCADILLY, on WEDNESDAY NEXT, November 1. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m. Antiquities will be exhibited, and the following Papers read:—  
1. 'The Recent Discoveries at the Tower,' by C. H. COMPTON, Esq., V.P.  
2. 'On the Guildhall Porch,' by ALLEN S. WALKER, Esq., GEORGE PATRICK, Esq., A.R.I.A., Hon. Rev. H. J. DUKINFIELD ASTLEY, M.A., J. Secs.

## ARISTOTELIAN SOCIETY, 22, Albemarle Street,

W.—THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS will be delivered on MONDAY, November 6, at 8 p.m., by G. F. STOUT, M.A., LL.D. Subject, 'THE PERCEPTION OF TIME AND DURATION.'  
H. WILSON CARR, Honorary Secretary.

## LONDON REFORM UNION.

THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON  
Will give an Address on 'LONDON in the AGE of ELIZABETH,'  
On WEDNESDAY, November 8, 1899,  
At the QUEEN'S HALL, W.

The Chair will be taken at 8 p.m. by the Right Hon. H. H. ASQUITH, Q.C.M.P.  
Tickets—Numbered and Reserved Patrons, 5s.; Sofa Stalls and Grand Circle, 2s. 6d.; Unnumbered, Area and Balcony, 1s.—may be obtained of the SECRETARY, London Reform Union, Trafalgar Buildings, Charing Cross.

## WEST LONDON ETHICAL SOCIETY, Empress

Rooms, Royal Palace Hotel, High Street, Kensington.  
LECTURE TO-MORROW (SUNDAY) MORNING, 11 a.m., by  
DR. STANTON COIT, on 'ST. AUGUSTINE'S CITY OF GOD.'

## NEWTON HALL, Fetter Lane, E.C.—During the

SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER MR. FREDERIC HARRISON will

give a COURSE OF LECTURES on 'THE HISTORY OF THE AFRICAN

SETTLEMENTS.' Commence at 7 p.m. Admission free.

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The University Court of the University of St. Andrews will shortly proceed to appoint a LECTURER in ANCIENT HISTORY and POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY in the University at a salary of 200l. per annum. The person appointed will be required to enter upon his duties on January 10, 1900, from which date the appointment will take effect.

Applications, accompanied by twenty copies of testimonials, should be lodged, on or before WEDNESDAY, November 15, 1899, with the undersigned, from whom further information may be obtained.  
JNO. E. WILLIAMS, Secretary.  
St. Andrews, October 21, 1899.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1899.

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## LITERATURE

*Rosamund, Queen of the Lombards: a Tragedy.*  
By Algernon Charles Swinburne. (Chatto & Windus.)

THE tragic anecdote which Mr. Swinburne has told in this play is told with a directness and conciseness unusual in his dramatic or lyric work. The story, simple, barbarous, and cruel—a story of the year 573—acts itself out before us in large clear outlines, with surprisingly little of modern self-consciousness. The book is a small one, the speeches are short, and the words for the most part short too; every speech tells like an action in words; there is scarcely a single merely decorative passage from beginning to end. Here and there the lines become lyric, as in

Thou rose,  
Why did God give thee more than all thy kin,  
Whose pride is perfume only and colour, this?  
Music? No rose but mine sings, and the birds  
Hush all their hearts to hearken. Dost thou hear  
not  
How heavy sounds her note now?

But even here the lyrical touch marks a point of "business." And for the most part the speeches are as straightforward as prose; are indeed written with a deliberate aim at a sort of prose effect. For instance:—

ALMACHILDES.

God must be  
Dead. Such a thing as thou could never else  
Live.

ROSAMUND.

That concerns not thee nor me. Be thou  
Sure that my will and power to serve it live.  
Lift now thine eyes to look upon thy lord.

Compare these lines with the lines which  
end the fourth act:—

ALMACHILDES.

I cannot slay him  
Thus.

ROSAMUND.

Canst thou slay thy bride by fire? He dies,  
Or she dies, bound against the stake. His death  
Were the easier. Follow him: save her: strike but  
once.

ALMACHILDES.

I cannot. God requite thee this! I will. [*Exit.*

ROSAMUND.

And I will see it. And, father, thou shalt see.  
[*Exit.*

In both these instances we see the quality  
which is most conspicuous in this play—a

naked strength, which is the same kind of strength that has always been present in Mr. Swinburne's plays, but hitherto draped elaborately, and often more than half concealed in the draperies. The outline of every play has been hard, sharp, firmly drawn; the characters always forthright and unwavering; there has always been a real precision in the main drift of the speeches; but this is the first time in which the outlines have been left to show themselves in all their sharpness. Development or experiment, whichever it may be, this resolute simplicity brings a new quality into Mr. Swinburne's work, and a quality full of dramatic possibilities. All the luxuriousness of his verse has gone, and the lines ring like sword clashing against sword. These savage and simple people of the sixth century do not turn over their thoughts before concentrating them into words, and they do not speak except to tell their thoughts. Imagine what even Murray, in 'Chastelard,' a somewhat curt speaker, would have said in place of Almachildes's one line, a whole conflict of love, hate, honour, and shame in eight words:—

I cannot. God requite thee this! I will.

Dramatic realism can go no further than such lines. The question remains whether dramatic realism is in itself an altogether desirable thing, and whether Mr. Swinburne in particular does not lose more than he gains by such self-restraint.

The poetic drama is in itself a compromise. That people should speak in verse is itself a violation of probability; and so strongly is this felt by most actors that they endeavour, in acting a play in verse, to make the verse sound as much like prose as possible. But, as it seems to us, the aim of the poetic drama is to create a new world in a new atmosphere, where the laws of human existence are no longer recognized. The aim of the poetic drama is beauty, not truth; and Shakespeare, to take the supreme example, is great, not because he makes Othello probable as a jealous husband, or gives him exactly the words that a jealous husband might have used, but because he creates in him an image of more than human energy, and puts into his mouth words of a more splendid poetry than any one but Shakespeare himself could have found to say. Fetter the poetic drama to an imitation of actual speech, and you rob it of the convention which is its chief glory and best opportunity. A new colour may certainly be given to that convention, by which a certain directness, rather of Dante than of Shakespeare, may be employed for its novel kind of beauty, convention being still recognized as convention. No doubt that is really Mr. Swinburne's aim, and to have succeeded in it is to show that he can master every form, and do as he pleases with language. And there are passages in the play, like this one, which have a fervid colour of their own, fully characteristic of the writer who has put more Southern colouring into English verse than any other English poet:—

This sun—no sun like ours—burns out my soul.  
I would, when June takes hold on us like fire,  
The wind could waft and whirl us northward:  
here

The splendour and the sweetness of the world  
Eat out all joy of life or manhood. Earth

Is here too hard on heaven—the Italian air  
Too bright to breathe, as fire, its next of kin,  
Too keen to handle. God, whose God be,  
Keep us from withering as the lords of Rome—  
Blackening and sickening toward the imperious end  
That wiped them out of empire! Yea, he shall.

The atmosphere of the play is that of June at Verona, and the sun's heat seems to beat upon us all through its brief and fevered action. Mr. Swinburne's words never make pictures, but they are unparalleled in their power of conveying atmosphere. He sees with a certain generalized vision—it might almost be said that he sees musically; but no English poet has ever presented bodily sensation with such curious and subtle intensity. And just as he renders bodily sensation carried to the point of agony, so he is at his best when dealing, as here, with emotion tortured to the last limit of endurance. Albovine, the king, sets bare his heart, confessing:—

The devil and God are crying in either ear  
One murderous word for ever, night and day,  
Dark day and deadly night and deadly day,  
Can she love thee who slewest her father? I  
Love her.

Rosamund, his wife, meditating her monstrous revenge, confesses:—

I am yet alive to question if I live  
And wonder what may ever bid me die.  
There is nought  
Left in the range and record of the world  
For me that is not poisoned: even my heart  
Is all envenomed in me.

And she recognizes that

No healing and no help for life on earth  
Hath God or man found out save death and sleep.

The two young lovers, caught innocently in a net of intolerable shame, can but question and answer one another thus:—

HILDEGARD.

Hast thou forgiven me?

ALMACHILDES.

I have not forgiven

God.

And at the end Narsetes, the old councillor, the only one of the persons of the drama who is not the actor or the sufferer of some subtle horror, sums up all that has happened in a reflection which casts the responsibility of things further off than to the edge of the world:—

Let none make moan. This doom is none of  
man's.

As in the time of the great first volume of  
'Poems and Ballads,' Mr. Swinburne is still  
drawn to

see

What fools God's anger makes of men.

He has never been a philosophical thinker; but he has acquired the equivalent of a philosophy through his faithfulness to a single outlook upon human life and destiny. And in this brief and burning play, more than in much of his later writing, we find the reflection of that unique temperament, to which real things are so abstract, and abstract things so coloured and tangible; a temperament in which there is almost too much poetry for a poet—as pure gold, to be worked in, needs to be mingled with alloy.

*La Bataille de Muret.—Le Château Gaillard, et l'Architecture Militaire au XIII<sup>e</sup> Siècle.*  
Par Marcel Dieulafoy. (Paris, Imprimerie Nationale.)

THE name of M. Dieulafoy is well known to all archaeologists from his work in Persia and Susiana, but the two studies with which we have now occasion to deal show that his interests are not bounded by the Euphrates, nor confined to centuries before the Christian era. The pamphlet dealing with the battle of Muret is concerned with a purely mediæval subject; that on Château Gaillard and its architecture has some connexion with M. Dieulafoy's Eastern researches, but has also much that is purely Occidental and modern in its pages.

The fight of Muret is not one particularly familiar to the English student, but it has high historical importance. We may say without hesitation that it settled the fate of all Southern France, by permanently driving the house of Arragon out of the region between the Rhone and the Pyrenees, where it had long been established, and had at times appeared likely to establish a permanent hegemony. After King Peter's tragic death under the walls of Muret on September 12th, 1213, and the scattering of his combined army of Spaniards and men of Languedoc, there was no further chance of the survival of a great Catalan state dominating both slopes of the Pyrenees and shutting out France from the Mediterranean. Muret was for Languedoc what Castillon was to be for Guienne two centuries later—the fatal blow to the particularists who stood firm by old feudal ties and adhered to the stranger. Modern France therefore owes no small gratitude to that great (and most unamiable) thunderbolt of war, Simon de Montfort the Elder, whose clear military insight and hard hand won a victory against dire odds. But the battle of Muret has another, if a secondary, importance, as the greatest of all the battles won by pure cavalry tactics over an army of overwhelming strength in which horse and foot were duly combined. It is the culminating point of the ascendancy in war of the mailed knight, whose doom was to come in the next century from the arrows of Crécy and the halberds of Sempach.

The military meaning of Muret is plain—a sudden attack by a solid force of horsemen, launched at the right moment and directed at the right point, may scatter a gallant but ill-compacted host if it be caught unawares before it can properly array itself so as to turn its superior numbers to account. In drawing this moral from the fight M. Dieulafoy agrees with those who have gone before him. But he has some new theories concerning its details, which differ in many ways from those of M. Delpech and others who have dealt with the matter. He holds that Simon de Montfort delivered his sudden assault on the Arragonese and their allies, not from the south-western exit of Muret, the Gate of Sales, but from the north-eastern end of the town. He is also inclined to believe that the Crusaders did not combine a flank attack with their frontal advance, as has been generally supposed, but used no such tactical subtlety, each division merely charging straight at such enemies as lay in its own front.

It is not wholly clear that M. Dieulafoy

is right in his proposed changes in the authorized version of the fight. His sortie is made over a bridge which is not mentioned in any of the chronicles (and they are numerous) which describe the battle; its existence is only established from a sixteenth-century document, and there is no proof that it had been built in the early thirteenth century. But this is a comparatively minor point; it is far more fatal that, to make his theory work, he is compelled to place the Arragonese camp at no less distance than three kilometres from the town of Muret, and that of the Toulousans at least two kilometres from the nearest gate. It may be said with confidence that no mediæval army would have camped at such a distance from the place it was besieging, more especially when it had already begun to erect military machines just under the walls. It was the invariable rule for the besiegers to lie close behind their batteries of mangonels and *perrières*, so as to be easily able to protect them from sorties. All that they required was to be well out of range of bolts shot from the town; to go further was to risk the destruction of the machines by sudden sallies which might easily drive off the "guard of the trenches," to use a modern phrase. M. Dieulafoy makes Simon and his Crusaders cross by this hypothetical bridge, which they can only have passed two abreast, and then form up on the further side in the three squadrons which composed their order of battle. This operation would have taken a considerable time, yet we know that the sortie was a complete surprise to the besiegers. Moreover, he forgets that the ground on which he makes Montfort array his men was already occupied by the enemy. For, only half an hour before, they had been shooting at the castle from it, and at such a short range that we are informed that they had recognized Count Simon, and hooted at him when he showed himself on horseback on the castle terrace. Another decidedly fatal objection to M. Dieulafoy's theory is that its exigencies compel him to alter the general direction of Montfort's charge: the chronicles say that he advanced "straight on to the enemy's tents through the middle of a marsh," but a glance at the plan in this pamphlet shows that, though he is made to pass a marsh, he is not striking at Peter's camp, but far to the right of it. Moreover, the battle-spot has to be placed well outside of the "Terrain l'Aragon," on which it is agreed that the main struggle took place—not less, indeed, than half a mile to the north of it. After conceding, then, that M. Dieulafoy has exposed some errors in the narratives of M. Delpech and the compilers of the great history of Languedoc, it is fair to add that his own plan of the fight is even less convincing than those which he attacks.

The second pamphlet, that on the architecture of *Cœur de Lion's* famous Château Gaillard, on the bluff above Les Andelys, is in many ways more interesting to the English reader than that which deals with Muret. In it the traces of Oriental influence in the plan of this great fortress are described in detail. They had been noticed before by other authors, but never developed with such minuteness. Château Gaillard was no ordinary twelfth-century castle, but an altogether abnormal structure which

far surpassed all its contemporaries, and served as a model for future builders. In some of its features, e.g., the substitution of stone machicolation for the usual wooden brattices, it was half a century ahead of the average Western castles. Considerable gratitude is due to M. Dieulafoy for pointing out the only other structure of that age which can be compared to it—the old castle of Ghent, built by Philip, Count of Flanders, about the year 1180, after his return from the Crusades. This stronghold is altogether inferior to Château Gaillard in the ingenuity of its architecture, but shows a clear attempt to deal with the same military problems in the same way.

No one after a careful consideration can dispute that Château Gaillard owed its special characteristics to *Cœur de Lion's* study of the great castles of the Holy Land, where the "concentric" type of defence had been employed already by three generations of Crusading kings and barons. Nor can it be seriously doubted that the Crusaders copied the strongholds of Byzantine origin, like Antioch or Nicea, which they had recovered from the Turks. But we must part company from M. Dieulafoy when he goes on to argue that the Byzantines had borrowed their architectural ideas from the Sassanian Persians, and that these last had inherited a complete art of military building from the Assyrians, *vid* the Parthians and the Achæmenides. It is true that the Assyrians were wont to build donjons and double *enceintes* and flanking towers not at all unlike those of the Middle Ages; but necessities of defence tend to produce the same devices in the most remote ages and climates. It is not necessary to affiliate all systems of fortifications, which show similar features, to one common origin. The fact is that Byzantine architecture is only Roman military architecture with a difference, and that the Romans learnt their building from the Greeks. They, for their part, trace their fortification back to primitive national origins in places like Tiryns and Mycenæ, from whose ancient simplicity all Hellenic fortification was slowly evolved in many centuries of gradual progress. There is no need to postulate anywhere in the development the adoption of a completely finished Oriental system borrowed from Persians or Assyrians. Instead it is to be noted a slow natural improvement, which only leads to results like those found in the East because the eternal principles of military architecture are, after all, bound to be the same in all places and in all ages.

*A History of the Charities of William Jones at Monmouth and Newland.* By William Meyler Warlow. (Bristol, Bennett.)

LITTLE, comparatively, is known of William Jones, citizen and haberdasher of London, the founder of the Monmouth and Newland charities, an account of which has been set out in a painstaking and sympathetic manner by Mr. Warlow, who for some years has been one of the lecturers endowed by the charitable donor.

Although a citizen of London (in those days no one could become a member of a Livery Company without previously "taking up" the freedom of the City), William Jones was a native of Gloucestershire,



having been born, as surmised, at Newland, a village distant about four miles from Monmouth, some time between 1545 and 1550, the date of his birth being also a matter of conjecture. He appears among Fuller's 'Worthies,' where he is described as having been a native of Monmouth, and compelled to leave that town and make his way to London on account of a paltry debt. This and other stories of a like character, which so often serve to embellish the lives of self-made men, Mr. Warlow appreciates at their proper value. What most concerns us is that later in life he became a member of the Company of Merchant Adventurers just at a time when that Company was rising to the height of its prosperity through the favour shown to it by Queen Elizabeth. His business took him a good deal to Hamburg, and at Hamburg he died at the close of the year 1614, or early in 1615, a short time only before the Company of Merchant Adventurers, with which he had been so long connected, was suppressed. Like many another good provincial who quitted his native town to seek a fortune abroad, he remembered in his prosperity the poor of the neighbourhood in which he had spent his early years, and by his will, dated December 26th, 1614, bequeathed two several sums of 9,000*l.* and 5,000*l.* to the Haberdashers' Company for the purpose of establishing a free school, almshouses, and a lectureship at Monmouth, and a lectureship and almshouses across the border at Newland. Mr. Warlow furnishes a most precise account of the fortune that has attended the Haberdashers' Company in its relation to these charities.

One point he makes very clear, viz., that the Company dealt with the money thus entrusted to it as other companies have dealt with similar funds both before and since. Having obtained a licence in mortmain, it purchased estates at Hatcham and elsewhere, making up the amount of the purchase-money where necessary out of its own corporate property, and out of the profits of such estates it paid a certain fixed annual charge in support of the charities, appropriating the balance to the Company's own use as the value of the estates increased. The Haberdashers acted throughout these transactions in good faith and supported by legal opinions, but the legal aspect of these trusts was not so clear then as now. Matters might have been allowed to go on uninterruptedly had not the Civil War and the Great Fire brought the Haberdashers into such sore pecuniary straits that they failed to keep up the payments to the Newland Charity, and in 1697 an information was filed by the Attorney-General which led to the temporary sequestration of their hall, and the management of the trust estates being vested in the Court of Chancery. It was not until 1852 that the Company recovered control over the estates, and then only for a very short time, for presently the Charity Commissioners appeared on the scene, and the Company's authority has since been grievously curtailed. Under schemes issued by the "powerful and somewhat autocratic body" of the Charity Commissioners, a girls' school has been erected at Monmouth in addition to what is now known as the Grammar School for boys, whilst a second-grade school has

been established at Pontypool. Besides the lectureships at Monmouth and Newland, another was established under Jones's will in London. A house in "Sithes Lane" (now Sise Lane), rented at the time of the testator's decease at 70*l.* per annum, was left to the Haberdashers' Company together with a sum of 600*l.* in cash for the purpose. In course of time the income arising from the property increased to over 350*l.* a year, and as the duties attached to the preferment involved no more than the delivery of a weekly sermon, it came to be known as the "Golden Lectureship." Although the lectureship was nominally tenable for a year only, the holder of the office practically enjoyed a freehold. When the Charity Commissioners took the trust in hand, the Rev. Daniel Moore was Golden Lecturer, and the scheme for the future regulation of the charity (the value of which exceeded 30,000*l.*) introduced the following year provided (*inter alia*) for the payment to him of a stipend of 400*l.* a year so long as he continued lecturer. After his retirement in 1894 the income, in accordance with the scheme, was reduced to 150*l.*, and the number of lectures to twelve in the year, whilst the appointment was restricted to an "incumbent with the cure of souls of a parish or parochial district, the church whereof shall be situated within the distance of ten miles from the Hall of the Haberdashers' Company in the City of London, measured in a straight line on the Ordnance Map."

The latest appointment (made within the last few weeks) was that of the Rev. F. S. Webster, rector of All Souls', Langham Place.

In the two introductory chapters, on the Livery Companies in general and the Haberdashers' Company in particular, Mr. Warlow is not always happy in his statements. For instance, he appears to adhere to the exploded idea that the term "mystery," as applied to these companies, represents "trade secrets." Again, when he writes that

"in the last year of this King's [Edward III.] long reign an enactment passed the whole assembled commonalty of the City, by which the right of election to all dignitaries and of officers, including the members of Parliament, was transferred from the ward representatives to the trading companies,"

he is inaccurate, for the enactment he cites did not in any way affect the elections to Parliament. He omits also to mention that the enactment was in force for a very few years only, the right of election of Common Councilmen reverting to the wards in 1384. These are, however, but slight blemishes in a work of a praiseworthy character.

*The Map of Life: Conduct and Character.*  
By William Edward Hartpole Lecky.  
(Longmans & Co.)

SOME interest might be found in suggesting alternative mottoes for Mr. Lecky's book in place of the sentence from Tocqueville which appears on the title-page. One that strikes us as specially appropriate is this: "A life without a purpose is a languid, drifting thing." Quoted by Matthew Arnold from the 'Imitation' to show that typically Christian morality does not fail to supply the positive guidance for conduct that is

found in the best ancient moralists, it occurs previously (though without the word "languid") in one of the epistles of Seneca. Thus its appropriateness goes to support the position of those who may see in the wisdom of classical antiquity rather than in the sanctities of the Middle Ages the basis of Mr. Lecky's view of life.

The strength of the book lies rather in practical observations on conduct than in close investigation of the theoretical grounds of morals. A disquisition on free-will at the beginning really abandons the theoretical point of view, and throws itself for security on the practical judgment of mankind as affirming that "we are free." This practical "freedom," however, is something that the determinist is not bound to deny, but only to explain in accordance with his own doctrine of "necessity." Again, in discussing the question whether virtue and happiness coincide, Mr. Lecky substitutes, in the same paragraph, the word "pleasure" for "happiness," and proceeds with the argument as if the two were identical. The Stoics, to whom he refers, themselves made "happiness," though not "pleasure," the end. They denied, indeed, that pleasures make any difference to happiness; and this, though it is one of their paradoxes, proves at least that happiness is not necessarily defined as a sum of pleasures. Thus the rejection of pleasure as the end does not dispose of the "eudæmonist" position in all its forms.

A distinctive view of Mr. Lecky's is that morality, even as an ideal, cannot be uniform for all national and individual types. There is room in life for divergent forms of excellence. This point is well brought out in the present volume. In all the great religious and philosophical systems, as Mr. Lecky has noted, all the elements of right conduct are in some degree recognized. The really great differences between systems are due to differences of proportion among the elements, not to absolute suppression of any. Yet it does not follow that all the types, as such, are intrinsically equal. Mr. Lecky, indeed, is far from thinking them equal. Though he points out with justice that the same virtues cannot be expected from individuals living in entirely different moral atmospheres, he pretty certainly does not regard the special strictness of Catholicism on some points of theory as counterbalancing one fundamental deviation from other ethical and religious types which he states in these words:—

"It is no exaggeration to say that in Catholic countries the obligation of truthfulness in cases in which it conflicts with the interests of the Church rests wholly on the basis of honour, and not at all on the basis of religion."

And if, we may add, the principle of honour itself becomes perverted, how much of the obligation can then be expected to remain?

"It is a peculiarity of modern times," the author remarks,

"that its chief moral influences are much more various and complex than in the past. There is no such absolute empire as that which was exercised over character by the State in some periods of pagan antiquity and by the Church during the Middle Ages. Our civilization is more than anything else an industrial civilization, and industrial habits are probably the strongest in forming the moral type to which public opinion aspires."

He points out clearly the many real virtues that industrialism tends to fix in the character through their necessity in the life of competition. Indeed, some readers will think him, in relation to economics, too much of an old-fashioned "individualist." At the same time, the one real decline which he is able to discover in contemporary morality is traceable to an exaggeration of the industrial spirit. It is extremely doubtful, he says in one place, whether social morality, especially in England and America, has not seriously retrograded as regards the means thought permissible of obtaining wealth. In most spheres of life he finds a distinct moral advance. While bringing out strongly the "seamy side" of war, he shows that war has become more humane. He dwells on the paradoxes of advocacy as a profession, and yet shows its necessity. In legal modes of thought he is able to point to an advance as regards the relative weight now attached to considerations of justice and to mere technical points. The way in which representatives, under party government, must decide on their votes, is, he remarks, from the point of view of personal responsibility, "a strange process"; yet it is inevitable, and party government is, on the whole, the best system practicable. Thus we find ourselves confronted with the paradox that militarism and advocacy and party spirit, all of which contain elements at first sight hardly compatible with ideal ethics, have in their development been accompanied by moral progress, while the new, and at first sight beneficent power of industrialism, from which some moralists are hoping so much, has caused the one unmistakable lowering of ethical standards among the most highly moralized peoples.

Sure of the most immediate attention are Mr. Lecky's references to the ethics of war and annexation rather than of industrialism. Here, it must be said, he is nothing if not scrupulous. In generalizing he recognizes distinctly that where some beneficent public end is aimed at by action through masses of men the details of the methods by which it is to be attained cannot, as a rule, have the moral perfection that is to be desired in every step taken towards a given end in private life. Still, while he allows this as a general proposition, his tendency is to seek for something like perfection in detail. He runs quite to the opposite of the Machiavellian extreme. "War is not," he says in one place, "and never can be, a mere passionless discharge of a painful duty"—that is, it cannot be for the greater number of those engaged in it, even as leaders. For Marcus Aurelius it probably was; and evidently our author, in his heart, thinks that that is what it ought to be. While he knows it to be impossible, he cannot help looking for ideal perfection both of motive and of method. The explanation, no doubt, is that he is preoccupied with private morals, where the last refinements of ethics by rights come in. To private morals a large part of the book is devoted, and on this a few words may be said by way of conclusion.

The starting-point is furnished by the saying that "character plays a larger part than intellect in the happiness of life, and the cultivation of the unselfish side of our

nature is not only one of the first lessons of morals, but also of wisdom." Yet "the danger of permitting the unselfish side of human nature to run wild without serious control by the reason and by the will" is equally insisted on. From the last six chapters, dealing with "The Management of Character," "Money," "Marriage," "Success," "Time," and "The End," much interesting detail could be quoted. Isolated sentences, however, might have the air of commonplace, and thus some injustice would be done to the whole. For, of course, the "wisdom of life" consists in great part of commonplaces. What is to be aimed at is their skilful combination. The last chapter contrasts in a suggestive way the pagan and Christian ideas of death. Here Mr. Lecky seems to underrate the extent to which speculations about immortality had influence on pagan thought. One remark from an earlier chapter may strike readers as having a particular, though apparently unintended application. "A disproportionate amount of English energy," the author observes, "takes political forms." This, it may suggest itself, applies to the case of men of letters, whose public is apt to suffer by the diversion of their energies to other fields.

*The Homeric Hymns. A New Prose Translation, and Essays, Literary and Mythological.* By Andrew Lang. (George Allen.)

MR. LANG has gained a high reputation for translating the classics, and his many admirers—among whom we count ourselves—will be glad to see that, after a long pause, he has again gone to early Greece and rendered what are somewhat loosely known as the 'Homeric Hymns.' There are, too, some hundred pages of introduction, which, as Mr. Lang was ever a fighter, will naturally excite interest. And excellent they are, besides being "up to date," for Mr. Lang deals with his latest special province, the savage counterparts, found all over the world in the most backward races, to the rites of the Greek gods. Thus

"Apollo, I think, is an adorned survival of the Son of the God of savage theology. He was not, at first, a Nature God, solar or not. This opinion, if it seems valid, helps to account, in part, for the animal metamorphoses of Apollo, a survival from the mental confusion of savagery. Such a confusion, in Greece, makes it necessary for the wise son of Zeus to seek information, as in the Hymn to Hermes, from an old clown. This medley of ideas, in the mind of a civilised poet, who believes that Apollo is all-knowing in the counsels of eternity, is as truly mythological as Dunbar's God who laughs his heart sore at an ale-house jest."

All this essay on Apollo is brilliant and admirably lucid, quite the best thing in the book, though we do not clearly see why these savage elements need put other theories out of court to the extent indicated. And in the Eleusinian rites,—

"Tree, and spring, and peaceful place with dance, song, and divine apparitions, all are Fijian, all are Greek, yet nothing is borrowed by Fiji from Greece."

Nor, we may add, by Greece from Fiji, the essential elements of these rites being universal in all peoples. Here is, at any rate, something definite, something that satisfies

one as a result of study instead of producing the feeling of uncertainty and futility which Lobeck's great monument of erudition concerning the *Mysteria*, 'Aglaophamus,' inspires. Mr. Lang brings a wealth of parallel to bear on this "anthropological method" of studying rites and ceremonies, which he modestly declares is "still on its trial." The main thesis has, we should rather say, fairly established itself by this time, and has come to stay longer than some of the theories embedded in Roscher's compendium of mythology. The coincidences are enough to satisfy the hardened sceptic. The opinion, also supported by Mr. Lang, that the higher beliefs may well be earlier than the lower, and that something like monotheism is a primitive feature of religion, is much more contestable, and even now, as our readers know, being hotly debated. On this point we are not convinced, but it is far too intricate to discuss briefly. Degrading as it may seem to equate the Isles of Fiji and the Isles of Greece, the comparison is really only to the credit of the artistry which cast over primitive man and his ugly ways a cloak of poetry and imagination, and left only traces here and there of an obscene Baubo or a clay daubing. And Mr. Lang points out that people have gone too far; Demeter, however porcine her ceremonies, was never herself a pig in Greek thought—a reservation for which one is duly grateful.

In these essays a just claim is made that "regions are visited which scholars had usually neglected or ignored." But scholars may complain, it is fair to add, that much has been omitted that they expected to find here. Why is there no essay on Dionysus? Is he too "departmental" to come into savage myth? There is certainly abundance of material concerning him in the 'Bacchæ' and elsewhere. Does not the word *Εἰραφώτης*, which is left untranslated as a proper name, suggest the primitive *cowade* in its negation of the mother of the god? The archaeologist whose text of the 'Hymns' is honeycombed with references to Pausanias will find his name only mentioned once in the introduction; and have not M. Homolle's researches added something to Mr. Lang's Teutonic authorities, Baumeister and Gemoll? There is no mention of the interesting scholiast on Pindar ('Nem.' ii. 2) who credits both Hesiod and Homer with hymns to Apollo. We miss, too, the exact references to all important passages which are one of the merits of the much-abused German. Doubtless Mr. Lang did not think it worth his while to repeat much that is not new; but his introduction, from its length and description, might be taken generally to cover the whole field of the 'Hymns,' and it is as well to say that it does not.

Coming to the translation, we find Mr. Lang moves as gracefully and easily as ever in his chosen medium. His results make charming reading, though he indulges in "no pretty lying that improves." He does not need to refer for a foil to the egregious version which says, for example, that, when Demeter visited the household of Celeus, "Iambe, knowing prudent things, offered her a compact seat"! But a reviewer is in a difficulty. The manuscripts of the 'Hymns' are exceedingly corrupt, and Mr.



Lang hardly affords a chance to estimate the accuracy of his version when he does not follow rigorously any one text, and does not specify (as was done in the translations of the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*) variants in a footnote. Gemoll's text, which he prefers, is not so readily accessible as the Teubner text of Baumeister, and the introduction mentions the adoption of emendations and readings by various eminent hands, such as Drs. Tyrrell and Verrall. Now Dr. Verrall is clever enough to conjecture anything anywhere, and therefore, if we are wrong when we find the translation deficient, the discrepancy may be in the text, or merely due to our crawling and craven preference for what the manuscripts read.

Mr. Lang finds that his ideas of translation have been censured lately, and of course, as he adds, no translation is unassailable; but recently we pointed out signal evidence of the vitality and influence of his style in the adoption of a good deal of his ornate phrase by Mr. Samuel Butler, who approached the *Iliad* in his version for English readers more from the standpoint of Tottenham Court Road than that of Wardour Street. With the poetical tinge of these pages there need be no quarrel. It is certainly preferable to "modern colloquial English," in which Mr. Lang supplies a specimen translation—somewhat exaggerating matters, perhaps, in his inimitable manner. But the best modern English is not "modern colloquial English," any more than, we hope, the dialect of Mr. Stead's 'Twentieth Century Testament.' What it is no two scholars would probably agree, and not many scholars seem to care, and till the point is settled we are always grateful for Mr. Lang's versions, over-archaic or not. Unnecessary, perhaps, it is to use such a form as "remede." "Remedy" was good enough for Shakespeare to employ several times, though it is still in current speech. Some special Scotch equivalents do not aride us greatly. Is English so very inadequate? Are we to have Scotch translations, just as we are threatened with Scotch repetitions of English school-books which have been known and used as sound and satisfactory everywhere for years? Mr. Lang candidly admits in his introduction that

"the rendering 'Etin' for πέλωρ is retained in spite of Mr. Butcher [his late Homeric colleague], who is also not wholly satisfied with 'gledes of light,' and with 'shieling' for a pastoral summer station in the hills."

One is here inclined to endorse Prof. Butcher's criticism. "Wild Etin" is too particular and personal for τέρας ἄγριον, for it is τέρας, not πέλωρ, we think, that the translator will find, if he looks again at the 'Hymn to Apollo,' 302 (ii. 124), he has rendered by his new equivalent. In the same Hymn, 362, φοινὼν ἀποπνεύοντι appears not to be rendered at all. As to "shieling," it is used for two different words—κλισίαι and σταθμοί—in following lines, yet the latter word a few lines above is translated "steading," which seems adequate. Why is not line 133 of the 'Hymn to Hermes' completed in the translation? A footnote quotes the Teutonic authority as absolutely unable to understand it, but presumably it is as clear to Mr. Lang as to the other English translators that Hermes wished "to pass the

beef down his sacred throat." Perhaps there is some snare that we do not perceive. Delos personified says ('Hymn to Apollo,' 64) αἰνῶς γὰρ ἐτήτυμόν εἰμι δυνστηχὲς ἀνδράσιν, which is rendered "for verily of me there goes an ill report among men." But does it not rather mean "I have a terribly ill-sounding name etymologically"? ἐτήτυμος and ἐτήτυμος being so used in Æschylus. It seems obvious to look here for a folk-etymology connecting Delos with the words δηλόμαι, "to injure," δόλημα, "bane" (used in this Hymn, 364). Thus Apollo Delius may have been fancied as Apollo the destroyer. The derivation of Pytho which follows in the later section of the Hymn is in the same spirit. Καλὰ καὶ ὕψι βιβὰς is rendered "faring with high and goodly strides." That is all right, though "goodly" is a little out of favour as the equivalent for the many Homeric adjectives that mean nothing in particular; but elsewhere why render the same phrase "steps high and disposedly"? The latter adverb seems to us needlessly elaborate in this place. We are of course aware that this later rendering is a quotation.

When he translated the *Iliad*, Mr. Lang preferred *c* and *us* to *k* and *os*; now he seems uncertain. "Mycalessus" and "Teumesos" (p. 115) are inconsistent; so, too, "Telphusa" and "Krounoi" seem to be. It is seldom, we find, that those who leave the old Latin system of transliteration manage to preserve any consistency.

Altogether the present versions do not seem so carefully done as those of the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*; they might, perhaps, have been improved by more pains, though they are very good as it is, and whatever Mr. Lang makes into English prose or verse is always notable for grace and scholarship, always sure of a hearty welcome from the world, learned and unlearned.

There are some well-selected illustrations of Greek art included in the volume, but the beautiful seated Demeter of the British Museum hardly seems to have come out as well as usual.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*One Hour and the Next.* By Millicent Sutherland. (Methuen & Co.)

'ONE HOUR AND THE NEXT' is full of the problems of labour and labour leaders. The heroine, adorable and restless in the modern style, irritating to those who love her best, insists on acting as devoted amanuensis to a professional agitator, who is a humbug all round. He makes her refuse the love of another man, a genuine worker for the good of the masses, and after casually kissing her is unmasked as possessing an inadequate wife, who strikes one as too melodramatic. The heroine with her aspirations comes near to being interesting; she is the cause of some poignant things; but the book is clogged by too much talk. The author shows considerable ability, but it is ability which does not seem to have found its right medium in novel-writing; or is it that the Socialist has not yet come to his own in fiction? The Fabians, apart from all considerations of their doctrines, were distinctly good fun; but the labour leader in modern novels is somehow not so interesting as he ought to be. In this novel he is a cad, and his pre-

tensions are really too thin to take in so many people.

*Resolved to be Rich.* By Edward H. Cooper. (Duckworth & Co.)

THERE is an obvious difficulty in reconciling the two themes of which this story is composed. Both subjects are well handled, but it is hard to see why they should be associated. A group of persons living in North Staffordshire, and some swindling company-mongers who plunder those who wish to be rich, are vividly described; but then a marchioness and her love affairs are unnecessarily dragged in, and the author is hard put to it to impart cohesion to the subjects he introduces. There was a brilliant marchioness in one of Mr. Cooper's earlier novels, and her story was well worth narrating; but the lady who figures in the book now under notice is neither attractive nor clearly delineated. There are clever passages and there are clever observations, but in our view the book is not nearly so good as Mr. Cooper has given his readers reason to expect of him.

*Tricks and Trials.* By Christabel R. Coleridge. (Hurst & Blackett.)

THE title of this story is certainly not an allusion to tricks of style and trials of strength in the literary sense; nor is there in the material of the volume much to explain it. But then the gifts of imagination and happy expression have not been lavished on the author. The book is not entirely uninteresting, but it is mediocre, and a seemingly unconscious survival of a rather poor fashion in fiction now nearly obsolete. There is not much strength nor savour in character, incident, or action. A secret marriage, a vanishing villager, a frivolous hat floating where no hat should be, a supposed drowning, a suspected but extremely innocent hero, with bright eyes and a mania for the fusion of the classes, and an exquisite lily maid, are some of the elements of a well-intentioned story, as mild as milk, but far less nourishing. The grammar is not impeccable, and the dialogue is dull.

*Even If.* By J. Morgan-De-Groot. (Blackwood & Sons.)

In this volume a distinguished Dutch author gives an English version of a sequel to his earlier story 'The Lotus Flower,' and the hope expressed in the preface, that it may be treated as a separate work, is justifiable. Like many another sequel, this is not so interesting as its predecessor. It contains fewer fine passages and more ridiculous scenes, and the English translation seems open to a larger number of objections; at times the book provides very funny reading. It is liable to criticism on various grounds, but it is by no means without considerable attractions, on account of the minute and lively descriptions of social life in Sweden, in which country most of the action takes place. On pp. 266 *et seq.* there is an interposed narrative which will commend itself strongly to those engaged in psychical research.

*Wine on the Lees.* By John A. Stuart. (Hutchinson & Co.)

It was distinctly a happy thought of Mr. Stuart's to disguise his tract on the drink traffic as a novel. The reader, having once got over his annoyance at meeting with instruction where he hoped for amusement, regards the volume from a new point of view, and finds it not nearly so bad as he expected. The satirical portraits of the lords of beer and whisky, the comic relief of Tapley and Dick Goodman, are received, in such circumstances, with a gratified surprise. If Vincent Twickham and the other serious characters are rather unconvincing, that is only to be expected in a tract, and is, after all, not so very uncommon in real novels. No doubt Mr. Stuart has done better than this, but many other people have done much worse.

*An Englishman.* By Mary L. Pendered. (Methuen & Co.)

MISS PENDERED seems to suggest that she is of Napoleon's opinion about our nation. The hero is a grocer, and to ordinary eyes a very dull grocer. Still he must have had remarkable qualities, for he induced Maia Lovel to marry him, and Maia Lovel, we are told, was the sister of the Honourable Mrs. Waring—no less. The minor characters are furnished from the townfolk of Market Grazen, where the Englishman kept his shop, and to many of them Miss Pendered has succeeded in imparting a fair measure of individuality. She has also succeeded in filling 320 pages with rather close print.

*The Shadow on the Manse.* By Campbell Rae-Browne. (Greening & Co.)

IN spite of some carefully spelt Lowland "dialect" and the conventional English of the Highlander of fiction, we can hardly reckon this novel as Scottish in its inception. It deals with the troubles of a Free Kirk minister who has been on the English stage, and whose congregation are scandalized to the extent of requiring him to resign when they hear his acquaintance claimed loudly on the Sabbath day, between services, by some of his "playacting" friends. These compromising Londoners are enjoying their vacation at the castle of a successful dramatist, who has set up as a Highland laird in the district, near the Kyles of Bute, where Basil Hamilton pursues his sacred calling. Certainly Harriet Jones is ill calculated for the atmosphere she disturbs with her frank and noisy vulgarity; but the officiousness of Mrs. Murray-Honey and the conduct of the elders are rather farcical and out of date. There is too much gush about "little Mary Paul," but her end is pathetic, and the ferry scene with the insane Highland boatman is well fancied and (theatrically) realistic.

*Lady Barbarity.* By J. C. Snaith. (Ward, Lock & Co.)

THE spirited touch is a good thing in most places, and notably in romance; but it may be overdone. In 'Lady Barbarity' it is so abnormally developed that it becomes a weariness rather than a pleasure to the reader. Then the language of the time—

just after the '45—is not always consistent with the rest of the speech. When Lady Barbarity uses "rather" in our villainous latter-day manner in the same breath with an "I'll warrant me," and so forth, it is disconcerting. Her "my dear man" and "child" recur continually, and are an unwelcome reminiscence of Stevenson and some of his most charming works. The story, in spite of some good points, is not to be commended as an example of reticence or good taste. The motive is the adventure of a rebel of low birth with a lady of high degree. It is all very well in its way, though that way may not appeal to every reader.

*As Others See Us.* By Watson Dyke. (Fisher Unwin.)

HERE is a story of a different stamp from the last—full of faults, of crudities and ineptitudes of expression, even of reprehensible turns of phrase. 'As Others See Us' has the air of a first book, and the vitality of one written by a person with something to say, but not the best means of saying it. It is only a slight attempt after all, and the promise of an identity and temperament behind it may, of course, never be realized. The hopeful signs are the absence of description, a sense of atmosphere (occasionally misty almost to wooliness), and a capacity for making a picture or a character out of nothing. Charlotte the girl-dreamer and idealist has charm, and there is a good deal of tenderness in her treatment. There are human touches, too, about her surroundings and in some of the grammar-school people which go far to redeem defects of various kinds. The idealized one, the mysterious musician, has fewer of the original touches which distinguish Charlotte, and has points in common with the favourite heroes of lady novelists.

*The Greatest Gift.* By A. W. Marchmont. (Hutchinson & Co.)

MR. MARCHMONT is hardly so successful in dealing with a romantic love story as some have thought him in the narrative of adventure. Nor does he make it very clear what he intends to convey by the title of the book. The story is mainly concerned with the love affairs of a cripple, and with the exertions of his friends to free him from complications. But neither in narrative nor in dialogue does the book excite much interest. The materials seem very familiar, and no skill is shown in handling them. In places it is difficult to repress a feeling of repulsion.

*Une Divorcée.* Par Madame Octave Feuillet. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)

WE have been in doubt whether to include our notice of this volume in those of novels, according to the modern sense of the term, or of short stories. The two stories, however, which follow the tale which gives its name to the book are unimportant. 'Une Divorcée' is on the old theme of the Catholic mother divorced from the wicked husband and wishful to marry a good man, but told by conscience that she must sacrifice herself to her daughter's chance of happiness.

# BOOKS ON THE EMPIRE.

Two books have reached us in "The British Empire Series" from Messrs. Kegan Paul & Co., of which *British Africa* has special interest at the moment. It contains good maps, such as are to be found in 'Stanford's Compendium' and other African books of reference, but it is a volume of mixed character. The contents consist partly of papers given in Sunday lectures at the South Place Institute, and the lecturers have not all taken trouble. They belong to the most opposite schools: Sir Henry Colville is official, Mr. C. W. Boyd is pro-Rhodesian, and Mr. F. Reginald Statham and Mr. Fox Bourne are from the other camp. Mr. Boyd, in his clever defence of Rhodesia, follows the usual custom in wrongly attributing to Mr. Rhodes, rather than to the Rev. J. Mackenzie (acting through Mr. W. E. Forster and Mr. Chamberlain), the exclusion of non-British influences from the country between Bechuanaland and the Zambesi. Of the march of the Chartered Company's expedition to Salisbury, Mr. Boyd tells us, "not a shot was fired in anger, not a man, woman, or child was molested." Of course not!—if for no other reason, because the orders to this column directed it to pacify Lobengula, and prevent all suspicion on his part of the fate which was designed for him, by crawling along the very frontier of the Transvaal all the way. It was essential to success that no spark should be struck. Mr. Boyd also praises highly Dr. Jameson's "qualities of head," but the conduct of the Raid is thought in this country to have shown an extraordinary amount of misconception and mismanagement. An article on 'Native Races' three times ascribes to Mr. (now Sir H.) Stanley the discovery of the pigmies. The writer was evidently unaware of the fact that the pigmies had been described in several books by writers who had seen more of them than Sir H. Stanley has ever seen, long before his journey. There was already, in fact, a pigmy literature in existence. The article on the 'East Africa Protectorate' evidently counts as British a large northern territory at present raided by Abyssinia, which the Government have now decided to hand over to the tender mercies of the Emperor Menelek. A good deal even of what is coloured red on the maps in this volume is virtually already gone, and even Major MacDonald's furthest point, which was only twenty miles north of Lake Rudolph, is to be abandoned.

The other volume of "The British Empire Series" is *India, Ceylon, Straits Settlements, British North Borneo, Hong-Kong*, and is also a somewhat scrappy collection of lectures delivered at the South Place Institute, though some of them are excellent. The best is that by "William Lee-Warner, C.S.I. (late Resident, Mysore)," now, we think, Sir W. Lee-Warner of the India Office, on 'The Native States of India.' We are glad to see that this experienced official calls attention to the dangerous character of the armies of those "feudatories."

Messrs. Methuen & Co. publish a book by Mr. Arthur Silva White which bears the misleading title *The Expansion of Egypt under Anglo-Egyptian Condominium*. It is, in fact, a book a portion of which states the existing position in Egypt, but the beginning and end of which constitute an argument in favour of our annexation of the country, or, failing that, on account of the Parliamentary difficulty, of a new system in which our position would be based on our finance. There is a great deal in the book that is interesting, but it is to be regretted that a certain confusion in its arrangement makes it less likely than it otherwise would be that the arguments of Mr. Silva White will receive due consideration. As far as "the expansion of Egypt" goes, Egypt has contracted rather than expanded in recent years, and Mr. White does not prove that expansion is desirable. He says of the Soudan:—



"The Sudan will absorb oceans of capital; and in time, under a stable Government, some return may be yielded. But the Egyptian Sudan is not a second India. It is a desert."

The Nile, as a whole succession of writers from the time of the Greeks have observed, is Egypt; but while Mr. Silva White uses the familiar argument "how essential it is for the people of Egypt to control the source-region of the Nile or to ensure its being in the hands of a friendly power," he does not prove that the diversion of the waters of the Nile is possible, and, that being so, the value of his reasoning somewhat falls to the ground. It is certain that the argument, in the form in which Sir Edward Grey used it—namely, that the Bahr-el-Ghazel is a territory in which water might be diverted from the Nile—is not tenable.

The main line of Mr. Silva White is one in which he appears to think that he is original, but in which he closely follows Mr. Spenser Wilkinson and other writers, whose names are not even mentioned in the index, though in a footnote there is a reference to one of Mr. Spenser Wilkinson's books. Egypt is strategically an island. Great Britain is the ocean power; Egypt naturally falls to it. We are inclined to agree that,

"under present conditions, no European power could seriously menace Egypt until the Command of the Sea had been wrested from us: in which case, the loss of Egypt would be a mere incident in the debacle of the British Empire."

The French position in Tunis is rather one we should menace in the event of war with France than one which would threaten us in Egypt, inasmuch as France can only reach Tunis across the sea. But, on the other hand, it must be remembered that, Egypt being strategically an island—no discovery, by the way, of Mr. White's, as he seems to think it—no foreign occupation would apparently present any serious danger to us in war. The foreign legions which occupied it would be cut off from their communications, and would be lost. Mr. Silva White does not prove the possibility of carrying on in time of really dangerous war communication with the East by means of the Mediterranean and the Canal. He begs the whole question when he says:—

"Since experts concur in the belief that the decisive naval battles of the near future, in which we are likely to be engaged, will in all probability be fought in or about the Mediterranean, the possession of Egypt by Great Britain necessarily becomes a matter of vital concern to her."

Naval experts generally think that the decisive battles will be fought just outside the Mediterranean, or, if "in" it, then in its western parts; and it does not follow that the possession of Egypt in time of war is, as he thinks, "a matter of vital concern." On the other hand, Mr. Silva White hardly understands the doctrines of Capt. Mahan which he quotes, for he uses an argument which is at variance with all the rest of his book when he says:—

"As compared with Great Britain, her chief rival, France may be said to hold a far stronger strategic position in North Africa, in so far as that position affects the Balance of Power in the Mediterranean, apart from the Suez Canal. In spite of engagements to the contrary, she has fortified Bizerta, and created a strong naval base there, as well as a secure retreat for her ships."

As we have already remarked, France can only reach Bizerta across the sea, and we are more likely to be able to attack her there by the disembarkation of army corps than she is likely to use this "strategic position" against ourselves. If we had to defend from a military standpoint a British occupation of Egypt with a view to the holding of Egypt in time of war, we should be inclined to base it upon a consideration which is wholly left out by Mr. Silva White, and which arises out of, and also rests upon, the position of the Italian navy and our political understanding with Italy. Some of the weak points in the argument of Mr. Silva White are revealed by his own statement of his opinions.

The existing organization of the British army does not lend itself to an increase of garrisons across the sea; but Mr. Silva White, although on the whole belonging to the naval school, uses here and there language which implies that such situations may be of military assistance to us, entirely without regard to the drain which their occupation may involve:—

"Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, Egypt—a chain of fortresses and naval bases—in the hands of the dominant Maritime Power, may be said, in popular parlance, to command the Mediterranean."

Apart from the general considerations to which reference has been made, there is much to praise in the volume of Mr. Silva White. The doubts which his remarks excite in a critic mainly concern what he tells his readers of the portions of the Nile Valley (claimed by Britain on many maps) which are raided by Abyssinia. He cites Dr. Donaldson Smith's remarks on the great commercial value of the fertile country one hundred miles north and north-east of Lake Rudolph, and quotes that traveller's opinion as to the line which the Emperor Menelek will claim. Mr. Silva White's green colouring of "cultivable lands" on one of his maps unfortunately, however, shows that the limit southwards of the lands which include this fertile country is a line which it is now known is exactly that which it is proposed to assign to the Emperor Menelek. In another passage the boundaries of Abyssinia are alluded to as still altogether in doubt, even upon the Nile side; but it is a fact that a settlement on the east has been already come to with Menelek (although the details have not yet been published), and that its nature is an open secret. Mr. Silva White does not appear, indeed, to have paid much attention to Abyssinian affairs, for a footnote on the Bonchamps mission pretty clearly reveals that he is not acquainted with the history of the two Abyssinian expeditions which, both of them accompanied by Frenchmen, actually reached the Nile. Our author assumes that there was a secret understanding with Menelek in connexion with the Rodd treaty which has been published, arriving, however, at this conclusion only on the ground that the treaty is so unsatisfactory that it must have been accompanied by a secret understanding. There is nothing behind it at all, and the further treaty which is now virtually concluded will give up a great deal more which Mr. Silva White thinks that we have retained. The fact is that Menelek is strong, and that on his frontiers we are weak. Mr. White is also mistaken in his statement that "the French believe that a return to the Dual Control, if not to Internationalism, would equally safeguard the stability of Egypt, and would more adequately represent the interests of Europe (meaning France)." The Government of France has repeatedly disclaimed any desire for a joint control. Mr. Silva White in a footnote says that "France spends over eighty millions on her colonies." Of course he means France, although he does not say so. But the real cost, including Algeria, is vastly more than double the sum he names. He thinks "the character of Abbas Pasha is that almost of a monomaniac," a phrase which it is regrettable to find him using, as it is opposed to fact, and seems to show a bitterness of feeling on the part of his informants (probably British officials at Cairo) of which we had no conception. The less partial view of the late American Consul-General, himself a supporter of the British occupation, is, although exaggerated in the other sense, far more true. The index is imperfect; for instance, Tigrane Pasha, one of the highest possible authorities on the state of Egypt, who is quoted, is not included. The spelling, although perhaps geographically correct, is annoying in the case of well-known names. Few, for example, will recognize Duflele in "Dufli."

Mr. Heinemann publishes, with the title *Under Queen and Khedive*, a pleasant auto-

biography of Sir Walter Miéville. It is a little unfortunate for the author that his agreeable pages appear in the same week as two more important works on Egypt under the occupation.

#### TALES OF ADVENTURE.

*Beyond the Great South Wall*, by Frank Savile (Sampson Low & Co.), relates "some surprising details of the voyage of the S.Y. *Raccoon*." It opens with a few preliminary chapters amid "the purr and throb of London, quivering in stuffily through the open windows," with "squeals of newsboys splashing across the blur and din." Mr. Savile catches on to his readers with unwonted expressions: on the first page we meet a man whose hands "were scabbarded hilt high in his pockets"; and a little later on Old Crum "kennelled his legs comfortably beneath his writing-table." The anti-hero of this story is a surviving monster of the prime, a man-eating thing which is also a god, whose "coarse, heavy, serrated tail dragged and lolloped along the rocks." The thing and the tail are designed on the cover of this book; but we are disappointed to find that the tail is in no way serrated.

*Further Adventures of Capt. Kettle* (Pearson), recorded by Cutcliffe Hyne, leave the little bantam-cock pilot of the Congo rich with many an honestly turned penny, settled comfortably with his wife on a Welsh farm. His ways of seeking and turning the honest pennies are always diverting and often exciting, and Mr. Stanley Wood has made them more so by his spirited pictures. As the first series of Capt. Kettle's adventures seem to have been very popular with their readers, these further adventures should be sure of a welcome.

*Purple and Fine Linen*. By William Pigott. (Cassell & Co.)—Once more we meet with the astonishing adventures of a king-substitute. Anthony Hope, however, has no grievance against Mr. Pigott. The scene is laid much nearer home than Ruritania, and the central idea is treated in an original fashion. It is impossible to indicate the lines on which the story goes without destroying its interest to an extent which neither author nor reader could forgive; but no lover of a good tale will have got the full value of his subscription to Mudie's if he fails to see 'Purple and Fine Linen.'

*Paths of the Dead*. By Hume Nisbet. (John Long.)—

He was the bravest man in France,  
He said so, and he ought to know,

sang Mr. W. S. Gilbert of one of his heroes. "I may tell you candidly I never wrote a more interesting romance," says Mr. Nisbet in his preface, and we will not presume to say that he ever did. The principal characters in this interesting romance are summarized for us by the author: "My Mrs. Hyacinthine Hart-Beachcomber is only a type of feminine egotism, as her opposite, Beatrice Gray, is the type of woman with mind and soul." "Arnold Kirklock is, like Hyacinthine, a very ordinary young man of birth, position, and fashion of the present day." For the rest, "My characters, being all strictly typical, are as real as if they had been drawn from individuals." It would be an impertinence to deny it. One omission there is in this invaluable preface. Mr. Nisbet has no word of comment for his own style, though he has enriched the language with such phrases as "He was not at all literary inclined," and "As the son-in-law of Lord Fabro he would gain distinguishment." We observe with pain an unkind allusion to Miss Marie Corelli. Mr. Nisbet should be more sympathetic.

There is hardly sufficient material for so long a narrative as that contained in *Heronford*, by S. R. Keightley (Pearson); but, taken as it stands, the volume is a carefully written and very tolerable narrative of country life in England a hundred years ago. The plot, which involves

kidnapping the hero and narrator, for they are one person, takes a long time to mature. The incidents are exciting, and not unnatural in their occurrence; and were they not crowded together at the end of the tale they would provide the reader with better entertainment. The love story is above the average of that one usually finds in this class of literature, and the author is skilful enough to overcome the difficulties of writing in the first person. The book is perfectly harmless, and might be read by boys and girls. Expletives would be numerous were they not usually expressed by a —.

*The Adventures of a Lady Pearl-Broker*, by Beatrice Heron-Maxwell (New Century Press), relates a series of attempts to rob a lady pearl-broker of her pearls. The chapters are really separate stories, connected only by the identity of the central figure. This system, invented for the convenience of magazines, was employed with success by Dr. Conan Doyle. But Sherlock Holmes was a definite, if rather mechanical personality, and his adventures were both ingenious and original. In the present instance the heroine is a nonentity, and the stories are either feeble or stale. The author may be congratulated on her courage. Openly to appropriate the central idea of 'The Moonstone' shows much valour, if little discretion.

In a novel of crime one does not expect the characters to be anything but lay figures or the style to have any merit beyond a bare respect for the rules of grammar; but one does require the villain to be a fellow of such infinite cunning that nothing short of the amateur detective's preternatural acuteness could foil his plans. The other essential is a mystery unfathomable by the reader up to the very last page. *The House by the Lock*, by Mrs. C. N. Williamson (Bowden), fulfils none of these requisites, and therefore the interest inspired by the first few chapters fades and dies long before the end is reached.

*The Weird Well*, by Mrs. Alec McMillan (Greening), has a cover which lives up to its title. The story tries hard to do the same, but with less success. It tells us that there were ghosts in the nineteenth century and baronets in the sixteenth. Unfortunately the weirdness is so ill maintained that we find it no more possible to believe the one story than the other. Also, the weirdest experiences are of little interest unless undergone by human beings, and the characters in this book imitate humanity abominably.

*Peril and Prowess* (Chambers) is a collection of some dozen or more stories by various well-known writers, including Messrs. Henty, Manville Fenn, Conan Doyle, and David Johnstone. It is full of adventures and illustrations, and is sure to be attractive to boys. We particularly recommend Mr. Johnstone's contribution.

#### BOOKS ON ENGLISH HISTORY.

*The Peasants' Rising and the Lollards, a Collection of Unpublished Documents forming an Appendix to 'England in the Age of Wycliffe'*, edited by Edgar Powell and G. M. Trevelyan (Longmans & Co.), is the collection of documents which Mr. Trevelyan spoke about in the preface to his promising book on the age of Wycliffe. They were "hunted out and transcribed" by Mr. Powell for the purposes of Mr. Trevelyan's work, and they are now published under the joint editorship of these two gentlemen, with a short introduction indicating the general bearing of the facts collected. The little book is competently edited. The papers are in most cases interesting, and the transcripts, so far as we have tested them, seem scrupulously correct. We must confess, however, to a slight feeling of disappointment at the scantiness of the collection and at the very small proportion of it that deals with the rising of 1381. Sixty or seventy pages of documents seem but a poor halfpennyworth of bread to the intolerable

deal of sack contained in the four hundred pages of Mr. Trevelyan's own work. It is unlucky also that the extracts from Assize Rolls should be so scrappy. This is, of course, no fault of Mr. Powell, and the scanty extracts he prints are in all probability the results of the examination of many long and dull documents. Moreover, we still lack the comprehensive "Quellenbuch" of the troubles of 1381 that we have long wished for, and future workers will have some trouble in piecing together the present collection of scraps with the fragments already printed by Réville and Petit-Dutaillis and in Mr. Powell's own earlier work. Perhaps the most interesting, and certainly the most consecutive, of the records here given is contained in the 'Inquisitions concerning John Northampton, late Mayor of London,' while the early seventeenth-century translation of the complaints against John Fox, the Lollard mayor of Northampton (the original cannot now be fully read), is decidedly interesting. The fragments from Patent and Close Rolls will soon be made rather unnecessary by the forthcoming calendars. The "return as to foreign clergy in England" is valuable, though we fear that there were many more alien priests benefited in England than those contained in these lists. But we wish the editors had kept their summary either in English or Latin, and if in the former that they had taken a little trouble to identify the names given in foreign forms. As it is, both index and text contain forms that are neither English nor Latin. "Colonia," "Gynes," "the abbey of St. Audoenus Rothomagensis," "Cadamo, abbes of," are not very scholarly forms. But we should be ungrateful to lay too much stress on such details, and should rather be thankful to the editors for bringing us face to face with these interesting and important unprinted records of the reign of Richard II.

*A Brief Survey of British History*, by G. Townsend Warner (Blackie & Son), is an attempt to make a simple selection of important events in English history, and to treat them in detail, to the exclusion of other less momentous facts, and with the object of linking them together in a chain of connexion. Mr. Warner rightly urges that history, even for children, should not be mere memory work, but also should appeal to their reason. He has certainly shown a good deal of skill in carrying out his plan, and we do not doubt that his little book will be often found helpful as an introduction to English history. His style, though simple, is clear, direct, and sufficiently varied, and he makes neither the mistake of "writing down" to his hearers nor that of indulging in abstractions that they are not likely to understand. Moreover, his selection of facts is as a rule judicious, and his patriotic but reasonable tone, the fullness of the recent history, and the stress laid upon Scotch history and on colonial history please us very much. At the same time we have our doubts as to whether Mr. Warner's method is well adapted to quite young children; and in the case of older children they might, without overburdening their memories, well be taught a few more facts than this book gives. But there is a more serious criticism to be made. After all, the imagination and the emotions are, or should be, stronger with children than the reason; and Mr. Warner's method is rather too colourless to appeal strongly to those sides of the young mind. He cuts out the picturesque, because it is not important, or because, perhaps, isolated details will not always fit into his "chain of events." He reduces the personal interest to a minimum. So picturesque a character as Sir Thomas More gets some five lines, while the Industrial Revolution is described at length, and all the chief new machines carefully explained. There is, then, the danger of making history uninteresting by making it impersonal, though in this case it is only fair to say that Mr. Warner does not press his principles with excessive rigour. His personal bits are good, and most of

his book is by no means bad reading. As to his accuracy, we may say that he never goes badly wrong; and if, perhaps, he is no great historian, in details he keeps himself tolerably up to date. A fair crop of minute slips and misconceptions might be gathered by the pedantic critic. Wessex did not "rise to the chief power" in 800, but nearly a generation later. It is strange how persistently the text-book writer irritates the Welsh eye by spelling Llewelyn "Llewellyn," and how hard it is to get out of school-books the erroneous notion that Lord Howard of Effingham was a Roman Catholic. "Being a scholar, he looked at matters from an historical point of view," is not, perhaps, a sentence that conveys much information to the youthful mind, and is also almost ludicrously out of place when applied to so abstract and unhistorical a speculator as Wycliffe. It was not Leslie, but Cromwell, that really began the battle of Dunbar; and it is unfair to assign the Dutch attack on the Medway in 1667 to Charles II.'s neglect of the fleet, or to treat it as anything but the result of an accidental error of policy in a war in which both sides have a very even measure of credit. Bothwell's Christian name was not Francis, but James. "Lollardry," as has been shown in these columns, is neither a correct nor an elegant word. But most of these points are of no vital importance in a book of this class. The book is well printed; type and paper please the eye, and it is exceedingly cheap. The concluding synopsis is a practical and well-worked-out feature of the volume.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MR. FRANK T. BULLEN's *Log of a Sea Waif* (Smith & Elder) is avowedly an autobiography. "I should hardly have dared," he says, "to try my hand on such a task but for the encouragement most generously and persistently given me by Mr. J. St. Loe Strachey, who urged me strongly to tell the public some of my experiences of sea life."

It may thus be accepted as a picture on board average merchant ships in the early seventies—exceedingly hard, but not so utterly brutal as it has been described in other recent books of less certain authenticity. There are no stories of savage mates with knuckledusters and revolvers, or of apprentices snatched up and thrashed with the knotted end of a yoke-line; but the lodging of the men is as bad as possible, and the rations are generally both short and bad. In one experience of the author's they may fairly be said to have achieved a "record" of nastiness. In a gale, shortly after leaving England, the casks of beef and pork and two casks of Stockholm tar got loose, were all stove, and their contents well mixed up together. The casks were hooped together again, new pickle was put into them, followed by the beef and pork, after the thickest of the tar had been scraped off. "It was eaten," the author says, "and before long we got so used to the flavour that it passed unnoticed." To judge from the crews here described, it would seem that the proportion of Dutchmen and Dagoes was quite as large thirty years ago as it appears to be at the present time. Statistics are said to show differently; but statistics do not always give a correct impression—they have, indeed, been described as the superlative of lies.

THE campaigns included in *The Wars of the Nineties*, by Mr. A. Hilliard Atteridge (Cassell & Co.), are not merely those in which we ourselves have been concerned, for all the fighting during the last ten years which has interested the public is described, even the China-Japan war, the French operations in Madagascar, and the second civil war in the Philippines; while it is rather surprising to find over a quarter of the book devoted to the conquest of Cuba. At the same time, it must be admitted that the reconquest of the Soudan is dealt with at considerable length, and in a

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manner at once taking and instructive. The Matabele war and the campaigns in Western, Eastern, and Central Africa are likewise included. The Tirah campaign is depicted in a bright, interesting, and also accurate manner. One great merit of the book is that what we may term thumb-nail pen-sketches of the leading officers are given. The illustrations help to lighten the tale of slaughter, while the sketches dispersed about the work make the text comprehensible to even civilian readers. To sum up, the story of the wars of the last ten years is well told, and forms a perfect little compendium of the period.

MR. WILLIAM JACKS will read with approval a translation by Clara Bell of *A Guide through Bismarck's Reminiscences*, by Horst Kohl. It is published by Messrs. Dent & Co. The author wrote to "defend" Prince Bismarck's book "against the endless odious attacks to which it was subjected by his enemies." It was not attacked by us; but history is history, and it is not good service to either Germany or Bismarck to "defend" the Chancellor by the deception of the public attempted in this work. Busch is, of course, attacked in it with ferocity, although his book is not only trustworthy, but of the highest value. The account here given of great historic events is a travesty of the facts. After 1866, when as a fact France and Prussia by equally underhand and tortuous means were preparing for the struggle which France and Austria had fixed for 1871, and which Bismarck and Hungary were determined to anticipate, "Prussia," according to Herr Kohl, was half angel, half lamb,

"so strictly straightforward in her policy, and so honestly anxious to display the peacefulness of her aims.....that France was obliged to invent an excuse if she really meant to declare war.....The French have never tired of saying that the Hohenzollern pretender was put forward by Bismarck himself.....That this is false has been proved a thousand times over, and history will never endorse the lie." History, however, now knows the facts from Bismarck himself. The French ambassador was not believed. The King of Roumania, who published his brother's letters, was not read. But since Bismarck himself put the dots on the i's the stupidest readers are too well informed to adopt the "history" of Herr Kohl.

THE second volume of *The Anglo-Saxon Review* (Lane) is as elaborately opulent as ever. The letters of the celebrated Georgiana of Devonshire continue to be of great interest, naive in expression, and full of allusion to the great men of the day. Mr. W. Brook Adams, who contrasts Dickens and Scott, is unduly careless about spelling the names of their characters, and dates the first number of 'Pickwick' wrongly. "Worth nothing" (p. 169) should presumably be "worth noting" in the same article. M. Cornély is interesting on the Drayfus affair. Sir Hugh Gilzean-Reid has contributed a sketch of Hogg by MacIver which he announces as "produced, in facsimile, for the first time." It seems a little odd that a Scotch journalist should not recognize that this identical portrait has been published more than once in 'The MacIver Portrait Gallery.' The other pictures are fine, especially that of William the Silent.

MESSRS. WARD, LOCK & Co. have included *The Brookes of Bridlemere* in their successful reprint of Whyte-Melville's romances.—Messrs. Constable & Co. continue their welcome reprint of Samuel Lover's works with two handsomely printed volumes of his *Legends and Stories of Ireland*. Lover was, as Mr. O'Donoghue his editor remarks, at his best in these short flights. Mr. O'Donoghue's notes are brief, and generally useful; but surely there was no need to give one to Joanna Southcott.

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON have brought out, in a guise that may lead the unwary to take it for a new novel, a story by Mr. B. L. Farjeon, *Blade o' Grass*, which appeared several years ago as the Christmas number of a magazine now de-

funct. A bibliographical note would have been an advantage in this case.

WE have on our table *Founders of the Empire*, by P. Gibbs (Cassell).—*The Growth of Cities in the Nineteenth Century*, by A. F. Weber (P. S. King).—*Good Citizenship*, edited by the Rev. J. E. Hand (G. Allen).—*Heine's Prose, with Introduction and Notes*, by A. B. Faust (Macmillan).—*How Music Developed*, by W. J. Henderson (Murray).—*Handbook of Optics*, by W. N. Suter (Macmillan).—*Natural and Artificial Methods of Ventilation* (Boyle).—*Our Empty Churches*, by S. W. Ingram (Houlston).—*A Good-Hearted Girl*, by Emma Marshall (Chambers).—*An Adventure*, by L. T. Meade (Chatto & Windus).—*The Castaways*, by Harry Collingwood (Griffith & Farran).—*Yorastro*, by C. J. Thompson (Greening).—*The Scarlet Woman*, by Joseph Hocking (Bowden).—*Numa's Vision: an Allegory*, by N. Mikalowitz (Chicago, U.S.).—*The Retreat from Moscow, and other Poems*, by G. G. Somerville (The Ideal Publishing Company).—*The Sonnets of William Shakespeare* (Bell).—*Poems and Songs of Degrees*, by R. J. Glencairn (Arnold).—*The First Epistle to the Thessalonians, Analysis and Notes*, by the Rev. G. W. Garrod (Macmillan). Among New Editions we have *Buddhism*, by T. W. Rhys Davids (S.P.C.K.).—*Arts and Crafts: Essays by Members of the Arts and Crafts Exhibition Society*, with a Preface by W. Morris (Longmans).—*The State and the Church*, by the Hon. Arthur Elliot, M.P. (Macmillan).—*Out on the Pampas*, by G. A. Henty (Griffith & Farran).—*The Petrified Eye*, by W. P. Drury (Portsmouth, Charentier).—*The Gentleman Digger*, by Anna, Comtesse de Brémont (Greening).—*Ministering Children*, by Maria L. Charlesworth (Ward & Lock).—*Black Puppy*, by T. Elmslie (Griffith & Farran).—*The History of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, 1859-98*, by A. E. M. Anderson-Morhead (9, Dartmouth Street, Westminster).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

## ENGLISH.

## Theology.

Anderson's (R.) *The Buddha of Christendom*, 8vo. 5/  
Biblical Introduction: Old Testament, by W. H. Bennett;  
New Testament, by W. F. Adeney, cr. 8vo. 7/6  
Cæc against Incense, edited by J. S. Franey, sewed, 2/6 net.  
Flint's (R.) *Sermons and Addresses*, 8vo. 7/6  
Garvie's (A. E.) *The Ritschlian Theology*, 8vo. 9/  
Holland's (F. J.) *Essentials in Religion*, cr. 8vo. 3/6  
Houlder's (J. A.) *A Short History of the Free Churches*, 2/6  
Ingram's (S. W.) *Our Empty Churches*, 12mo. 2/6 net.  
Miles's (R. H.) *The Teaching of Jesus To-day*, 18mo. 3/6 net.  
Prayers, Public and Private, by E. W. Benson, edited by the Rev. H. Benson, cr. 8vo. 3/6  
Reservation of the Sacrament, ed. by J. S. Franey, 2/6 net.  
Wilson's (S. L.) *The Theology of Modern Literature*, 7/6  
Young's (D. T.) *Unfamiliar Texts*, cr. 8vo. 3/6

## Law.

Johnston's (J.) *Popular Handbook of the British Constitution*, cr. 8vo. 6/  
Public General Acts, 62 and 63 Vict., roy. 8vo. 3/  
*Fine Art and Archaeology.*

Book of the Art of Cennino Cennini, translated by C. J. Herringham, cr. 8vo. 6/ net.  
Budge's (E. A. W.) *Egyptian Ideas of the Future Life*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 net. *Egyptian Magic*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 net.

Chamberlain's (B. H.) *A Practical Introduction to the Study of Japanese Writing*, folio, 31/6 net.  
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Pritchett's (R. T.) *Pen and Pencil Sketches of Shipping and Craft all round the World*, 8vo. 10/6 net.  
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Stubbs's (G.) *The Anatomy of the Horse*, folio, 42/  
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## Poetry and the Drama.

Crabbe's (G.) *Poems*, a Selection, edited by B. Holland, 6/  
Dante's *Purgatory*, a Translation, by A. C. Auchmutz, 5/  
Glencairn's (B. J.) *Poems and Songs of Degrees*, 5/ net.  
Godley's (A. D.) *Lyra Frivola*, cr. 8vo. 2/6

Meryviale's (W.) *Anita*, and other Poems, 16mo. 5/ net.  
Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, edited by E. Dowden, 8vo. 3/6;  
Works, Vol. 9, Eversley Edition, cr. 8vo. 5/  
Spurr's (H. A.) *Bachelor Ballads*, and other Lazy Lyrics, 3/6  
Tennyson's (A.) *Poems*, cr. 8vo. gilt, 2/6

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Singing-Time, Music by A. Somervell, Drawings by L. L. Brooke, 4to. 5/  
Singing-Time, Music by A. Somervell, Drawings by L. L. Brooke, 4to. 5/

## Philosophy.

Graham's (W.) *English Political Philosophy from Hobbes to Maine*, 8vo. 10/6 net.

## History and Biography.

Byington's (H. H.) *The Puritan as a Colonist and Reformer*, 8vo. 9/  
Cowper's (H. S.) *Hawkehead, its History, &c.*, 30/ net.  
D'Epina's (Madame) *Memoirs and Correspondence*, translated by J. H. Freese, 3 vols. 8vo. 31/6

Fletcher's (J. S.) *A Picturesque History of Yorkshire*, Vol. 1, imp. 8vo. 7/6 net.  
Forster's (F. A.) *Studies in Church Dedications; or, England's Patron Saints*, 3 vols. roy. 8vo. 36/ net.

Heathcote's (E. D.) *An Account of Families of Heathcote which have descended out of the County of Derby*, imp. 8vo. 42/ net.

Hodgkin's (T.) *Italy and her Invaders: Vol. 7, Frankish Nations; Vol. 8, The Frankish Empire*, 8vo. 24/  
Kohl's (H.) *Bismarck's Reflections and Reminiscences*, translated by C. Bell, cr. 8vo. 4/6 net.

Lane-Poole's (S.) *Babar*, cr. 8vo. 2/6  
Miville's (Sir W.) *Under Queen and Khedive*, cr. 8vo. 6/  
Paul's (T.) *Britain's Prince and Princess*, extra cr. 8vo. 6/  
Shervinton's (Kathleen) *The Shervintons, Soldiers of Fortune*, extra cr. 8vo. 10/6 net.

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Symes's (B. S.) *English History*, cr. 8vo. 2/6  
Thomsett's (R. G.) *With the Peshawar Column*, cr. 8vo. 3/6

## Geography and Travel.

Africa as seen by its Explorers, edited by E. J. Webb, 2/  
Harper's (C. G.) *The Exeter Road*, 8vo. 16/  
Historic Byways and Highways of Old England, edited by W. Andrews, 8vo. 7/6

Lloyd's (A. B.) *In Dwarf-Land and Cannibal Country*, roy. 8vo. 21/ net.  
Stuart's (H.) *Lochs and Loch Fishing*, 8vo. 10/6 net.

## Philology.

Carpenter's (G. R.) *Elements of Rhetoric and English Composition*, cr. 8vo. 3/6  
Heine's *Prose*, edited by A. B. Faust, 12mo. 2/6  
Rodwell's (G.) *New Testament Greek*, 12mo. 3/6  
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## MR. WILLIAM HENRY APPLETON.

Too late to record the fact last week, we received news of the death, in his house in New York, on the night of Thursday, the 19th inst., of the venerable Mr. William H. Appleton, the Nestor of Anglo-Saxon publishers, in his eighty-sixth year. Although Mr. Appleton had outlived all his eminent friends in this country, with perhaps the single exception of Mr. Herbert Spencer, the news of his death will be interesting to a wide circle in England.

William Henry Appleton was born at Haverhill, Mass., on January 27th, 1814. He was the son of a "dry-goods merchant" in that village, who moved in to New York when his son was eleven years of age, and timidly began the retail sale of books. William Appleton became a clerk in his father's shop, and was seventeen when Daniel Appleton ventured upon his earliest publication, in 1831. Young as he was, he was much interested in this modest enterprise, and never ceased to urge his father to repeat an experiment which had not been unsuccessful. In fact, later publications, in the preparation of which the youth took a prominent part, proved one after another so extremely lucky, that after 1833 the house of Appleton began to hold up its head among the publishing firms of New York. When, in 1835, it seemed desirable to form foreign connexions, William Appleton was sent to London with introductions to John Murray the first and to Thomas Norton Longman, by both of whom he was very kindly received. At a dinner party given by the latter, Appleton met Thomas

Moore, who had then just completed the final series of his 'Irish Melodies,' and a friendship sprang up between the young American and the veteran bard. From London, Appleton moved on to Germany, where, among others, he met the elder Tauchnitz.

The firm which has since become so famous was formed in 1838 under the title of "Daniel Appleton & Co.," William being the "Co.," and the business was removed to No. 200, Broadway. In 1844 William Appleton married Mary Worthen, of Lowell, Mass. It is unnecessary here to dwell upon the extraordinary prosperity which the firm and its partners enjoyed. Everything they touched in those early days seemed to turn into gold. William Appleton was never, however, led away by the glitter of success into want of caution; boldness and prudence were equally mingled in the conduct of his successive enterprises. What is of particular interest to English readers is the fact that, earlier than any one else in America, he foresaw the greatness of the leaders of English science in the Victorian period. When each was still unknown, or looked upon with angry suspicion, Mr. Appleton sought out successively Charles Darwin, Huxley, Tyndall, and Herbert Spencer, secured their personal friendship, and introduced their books to the American public.

The part William Appleton took personally in labouring for international copyright was active and honourable. No one survives him who had so close a part in this long struggle as he had. His 'Letter on an International Arrangement,' addressed to Edward Everett in 1853, practically opened the copyright campaign. Therefore when, in 1887, the American Publishers' Copyright League was formed, William H. Appleton was naturally and unanimously elected its first president. He was a man of extremely winning manners and profuse hospitality, sagacious, far-sighted, and of rare executive ability. In later years the last of these qualities was exercised in many projects outside his particular business. But it is as a publisher that he will be remembered as one of the most upright and most perspicuous of his class, and as a true friend to science and literature. His interests are now represented by his son, Mr. William Worthen Appleton, who has as many friends among English men of letters in this generation as his father had among those of whom last week he was almost the latest survivor.

## JOHN WESLEY AND THE GHOSTS.

I REMEMBER hearing an aged West-County friend relate, more than thirty years ago, the story of John Wesley and the ghostly feast which Mr. Baring-Gould records in 'A Book of the West.' In my old friend's version, however, the words used to exorcise the demons were those of the first verse of one of Charles Wesley's hymns:—

Jesus! the name high over all,  
 In hell, or earth, or sky,  
 Angels and men before it fall,  
 And devils fear and fly.

The hymn is No. 37 in John Wesley's 'Collection of Hymns,' published in October, 1779.

JOHN A. ANDERSON.

## 'THE COMMUNE OF LONDON.'

THE reviewer of my book touches on a point so important to all who are interested in history that I hope you will allow me to point out that the words he quotes from it on the want of encouragement for original research in this country are not, as he strangely imagines, a mere personal complaint. On the contrary, I refer the reader for their justification to a striking lecture of Dr. Stubbs,\* and to a paper of my own on 'Historical Research' in the *Nineteenth Century* for December, 1898, in which I treated the question from a general

\* 'The Present Status and Prospects of Historical Study.'

standpoint. It is surely a commonplace observation that, for want of systematic encouragement, original research in history has been backward among ourselves. Your reviewer cites Froude as a salient instance of such encouragement existing. Every one surely knows that Froude owed his success to his literary brilliancy. He became Regius Professor, it is true; but the opinions of his predecessor and successor in the chair on the subject of his historical researches might somewhat stagger your reviewer. So long as the dreary work of exploration and critical inquiry is rewarded only by carping comments or complaints on the part of those who make use of it that it does not give us "continuous history," we are hardly likely to secure much of it.

Your reviewer, however, I find, is perfectly right in saying that I have overlooked the printer's error by which Scheffer-Boichorst appears on p. 177 as "Scheffer-Boichort." The prominence he gives the fact implies that he is grateful for small mercies. I only wish that so erudite a critic had given his opinion on such matters of real importance as the "Inquest of Sheriffs" documents in dispute instead of complaining of "ce méchant animal qui se defend," to the natural annoyance of his assailants. I should have specially valued his verdict on my view that London's suggested assessment at "1,200 hides" is a delusion, based on a strange confusion between the *donum* and assessed hidage (p. 257). He does not allude in any way to the subject, but I gather, after carefully reading his review, that my criticism is sound.

J. H. ROUND.

## RICHARD BADILEY.

IN your able review of Mr. Spalding's work on Admiral Badiley, from whom I and others claim descent, I notice that you have repeated Mr. Spalding's opinion, thus expressed by him:

"It seems probable that his last days were spent in poverty, for beyond the sum legally due to him on his retirement, he only received 300*l.* for his service in discovering two parcels of plate which had apparently been concealed by thievish seamen," &c. —Cf. p. 305.

It may possibly surprise Mr. Spalding and his readers if I venture to give this vague "probability" the most complete of contradictions. Badiley died very well off indeed, regarding the difference of the value of money then and now. His will, a copy of which I had from General Frederick Baddeley, my great-uncle, is dated April 2nd, 1656, the codicil May 15th, 1657, and it was proved by Elizabeth (Bennet), his widow, October 13th, 1657. It opens with an annuity granted to five poor widows of 12*l.*, and is followed by another to the pastor of Stepney and widows of Stepney, 9*l.* To Samuel Baddeley, the eldest son, was left thirty-two acres of land at Low Leyton and Walthamstow, letting at 70*l.*, "and  $\frac{1}{2}$  of all my shipping Stock and Adventures, now worth by inventory 2,800*l.*" To John Badely, his youngest son,

"the house my family lives in at Milkyard, in Wapping, and now let at 43*l.* p. ann. Also to said son 350*l.* [in the codicil this is increased to 500*l.*]. Also to said son at the age of 21, a fourth share in my shipping stock and adventures."

To his daughter he leaves also a good provision of land and sixty years' lease of a tenement at Thames side, "near the new buildings of Master Munt"; while to his wife he makes handsome provision, including the use of his house for life, "and a third of the rent of the House left by my father in Wapping." "I doe also give and bequeath unto my loving wife whatever salerie is or shall grow due unto me in the voyage I am now upon in the Common wealth's Service, provided it exceeds not 250*l.*" "Dated on board the ship Resolution in the sea." Richard Baddeley, as the name is more correctly written, was son of Richard Baddeley, fourth son of John Baddeley, of Ellerton Grange, Adbaston, co. Stafford, and Katharine Comberford, of Comberford.



According to the late Mr. Planché, he was descended from Sir John de Baddeley, Keeper of the Wardrobe to Edward III. ST. C. B.

\* \* We are glad to learn that Mr. Spalding's inference was erroneous; he does not appear to have seen the will. We cannot accept the statement that "the name is more correctly written Baddeley." The man himself always wrote it Baddeley. That later members of the family wrote it Baddeley is nothing to the purpose. Even a father and son, or two brothers, often spell their names differently. Can our correspondent settle the point of the admiral's age? What was the date of his birth?

#### MR. GRANT ALLEN.

We greatly regret to learn that Mr. Grant Allen died on Wednesday after a long and extremely painful illness. Indeed, for some weeks he had been but partially conscious, as narcotics were the only remedy that gave him any relief. His malady, which had puzzled his medical advisers, was inflammation of the liver, which has been found to be of long standing and the cause of the ill health which harassed him of recent years. Earlier in his life he had suffered from delicacy of the lungs, and had to spend two or three winters in the south of France; but he secured sufficient strength to brave our climate, and built himself a house at Hindhead, which became a place of pilgrimage for those who regarded him as a "great moral emancipator and pioneer."

Mr. Grant Allen's earliest appearances in literature were as a disciple of Mr. Herbert Spencer, his 'Physiological Aesthetics' and his treatise on 'The Colour Sense,' published twenty years ago or so, being largely influenced by the speculations of that philosopher. 'The Evolutionist at Large,' which appeared some two years later, exercised a considerable influence on the rising generation; but none of these books was a pecuniary success, neither was 'Colin Clout's Calendar,' nor the other volumes of popular science which he published at this time. The necessity of earning an income by his pen induced him to turn to fiction, and he won the 1,000*l.* prize offered by *Tit-Bits*; but till he brought out 'The Woman Who Did' he, as he himself declared, "could never live on the proceeds of direct publication." At first his stories were written mainly to please the public; but the didactic vein was stronger in him than the imaginative, and in what he styled "Hill-top Novels" he endeavoured to express his theories of life and society: rather to instruct his readers than to give them pleasure. Unluckily, a curious absence of humour made these tales of such a nature as to seem more amusing than impressive to the outside world. Although he had a circle of admirers, not only did he fail to achieve any great measure of success, but his ambitious effort at a philosophy of theism, 'The Evolution of the Idea of God,' met with a cold reception that greatly chagrined him.

Mr. Allen's fertility was prodigious, and besides the books that bore his name he brought out many others anonymously or under pseudonyms: for instance, 'The Typewriter Girl,' published by Messrs. Pearson a couple of years ago as by "Olive P. Rayner," was his. He contributed largely to journalism, and a series of his essays, which appeared under the title of 'Post-prandial Philosophy' in the *Westminster Gazette*, were collected in a volume, as were many other of his papers in the magazines and newspapers. Latterly his didactic temperament led him to issue a useful series of guides to "historic cities." He was quite in his element when instructing the tourist what to see and what to admire. The last publications of this versatile man of letters were 'The European Tour' and 'Twelve Tales.' We may add that he printed a few years back a volume of verse, mostly the productions of his youth, under the name of 'The Lower Slopes.'

Mr. Allen was a pleasant talker and a kind-hearted man, and if, under the stress of ill health and of constant writing for a living, he became somewhat bitter in print and in speech, such utterances did not indicate the real man, and would never have been forthcoming had fortune been more kindly to him. He was a signal instance of a man possessed of rapid apprehension, ready expression, and indomitable industry who never found his true vocation.

#### Literary Gossip.

THE article in the current *Quarterly* upon the Transvaal is said to be by Mr. Edward Dickey, C.B.

*Notes and Queries* will celebrate its jubilee next week, it having been founded by Mr. Thoms on the 3rd of November, 1849. The jubilee number will contain portraits of Mr. Thoms and Mr. Dilke, as well as a history of the paper, including biographical notices of its late editors, Mr. Thoms, Dr. Doran, and Mr. Turle. Mr. Richard H. Thornton, of Portland, Oregon, has drawn up a list of past contributors taken from the obituary notices.

THE six days' sale of books and manuscripts at Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge's, November 20th to 26th, will include some uncommonly interesting series of autograph letters. One lot comprises sixteen long and important epistles, 1796-1803, from Coleridge to Thelwall, in which the former alludes to "some shocking stories of Godwin" told him by Scott. In one of the letters he says: "As to poetry, I have altogether abandoned it, being convinced that I never had the essentials of Poetic Genius, and that I mistook a strong desire for original power." Another series consists of twelve long letters of George Eliot and thirty-eight of George Henry Lewes, the whole addressed to Mr. Alexander Main, compiler of 'The Wise, Witty, and Tender Sayings of George Eliot'; to judge from the necessarily brief extracts, these letters are of considerable interest. Yet another series comprises no fewer than twenty-five autograph letters, covering eighty pages quarto, and dating from 1789 to 1816, addressed by Mrs. Piozzi to the Rev. Dr. Whalley; they cover most of the subjects of the period, from Mrs. Siddons to Bonaparte, and from the author of 'Marmion,' receiving "a thousand guineas for a thousand lines" to the quarrels of Lord and Lady Byron. The sale also includes two original unpublished MSS. of D. G. Rossetti, 'William and Mary, a Ballad,' and a translation of Bürger's 'Lenore,' done when Rossetti was sixteen years of age.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. will publish on Wednesday, under the title of 'The Scarlet Herring, and other Stories,' a new volume of stories by his Honour Judge Parry, the author of 'Katawampus' and other popular books for the young. The volume will include thirty illustrations in black and white by Mr. Athelstan Rusden.

THE second volume of the new edition of Mr. Robert Bridges's poems, which will also be published by Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. on Wednesday, contains, in addition to the well-known "shorter poems," twenty-eight "new poems." Of these eclogues and elegies two have already appeared in the *Cornhill*

*Magazine*, and four in Mr. Elkin Mathews's 'Shilling Garland.' The remainder are printed for the first time. The "shorter poems" have been revised, and in a few instances corrected, for this edition.

LIEUT.-COL. G. F. R. HENDERSON, the author of the recent 'Life of Stonewall Jackson,' contributes to the November *Blackwood* an article on 'Some Maxims of Napoleon,' which gives a forecast of the strategy controlling the military operations in South Africa. Another article in the number on a subject of interest at the present time is by the Hon. Harold G. Parsons, of the Legislative Council of Western Australia. *Apropos* of the new Australian Commonwealth, he deals with the relations which subsist between the colonies and the Privy Council, as representing the Crown and guaranteeing the liberties of the individual throughout the empire. General Sir Henry Brackenbury, who was Chief of the Staff to Sir Garnet Wolseley, gives in 'The Transvaal Twenty Years Ago' an account of the storming of Sekukuni's stronghold and the measures then taken to hold the Boers in check. Capt. Neill Malcolm, D.S.O., describes his experiences while 'On Service in the Uganda Protectorate'; and in 'A New Carriage on an Old Road' Major Arthur Griffiths tells of a journey by autocar from Hyde Park Corner to Bath by the old Bath Road of the coaching days.—*Macmillan's Magazine* for November will contain two articles which ought to be of interest at the present time—'The Lesson of 1881,' a criticism by Major Pearse (who sailed with his regiment, 2nd Battalion East Surrey, for the Cape on Friday, the 20th) on the mistakes which contributed to the disastrous result of the last Boer war; and 'In the State of Suzerainty,' on the various interpretations of that much-vexed term. Mr. Charles Whibley, in 'London Revisited,' records his impressions after several years' absence from London.

MR. FISHER UNWIN has nearly ready for publication the work on which Mr. C. Dobson Collet, the Secretary to the Association for the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge, was engaged shortly before his death; it is entitled 'Taxes on Knowledge: the Story of their Origin and Repeal.' Mr. George Jacob Holyoake, himself an octogenarian, has written an introduction to the work, which is a remarkable performance to be begun in a man's eightieth and completed in his eighty-fourth year. It will be remembered that Mr. Holyoake incurred fines to a stupendous amount in connexion with the obnoxious Acts.

THE members of the London University Convocation who, at its last meeting, objected to have the subject of pedagogy restricted under the new scheme to a subdivision of the Faculty of Arts, now contemplate a separate recommendation to the Statutory Commission, which is required by the Act to consider any point raised by not fewer than fifty members of Convocation. The suggested recommendation will favour a distinct Faculty of Education and a specific degree.

THERE will be a series of educational conferences in London during the first fortnight of January, in connexion with the preliminary exhibition of objects intended

for the Paris Exhibition. On this ground the usual winter meeting of the College of Preceptors will be dispensed with, the College lecturers co-operating with the Exhibition authorities at South Kensington.

APART from the special efforts which are to be made by foreign visitors to the Paris Exhibition of next year, and to one of which attention was drawn in our 'Gossip' of last week, the French Ministry is taking all the necessary steps to provide for a comprehensive discussion on educational topics. The conference on elementary education ("Congrès International de l'Enseignement Primaire") will be held on the four days including Thursday, August 2nd, and Sunday, August 5th.

THE programme of this conference is now settled. The discussion will be divided into five sections: domestic economy; school attendance; ethical education; higher primary instruction, its limits and local adaptations; continuation schools and lectures, recreation classes and friendly societies. The selected openers are all French, but papers on the various subjects are invited from such as intend to be present.

A CONCISE history of Celtic Scotland will be published by Mr. Gardner, of Paisley, early in December. The title of this work of six hundred pages will be 'A Popular History of the Highlands and Gaelic Scotland from the Earliest Times till the Close of the Forty-five,' by Dugald Mitchell, M.D., who has the advantage of being a Gaelic scholar.

THE Girls' School at Wycombe Abbey, Lord Carrington's former seat, which was established three years ago, now numbers 210 pupils. This is quite a triumph for the founders of the school.

THE decease is announced, at the advanced age of eighty-one, of the Rev. H. C. Adams, formerly vicar of Old Shoreham, and before that Fellow of Magdalen, Oxford, and Head Master of the College School. He was the author of a great number of works: such as a volume of poems, a Greek delectus, 'Wykehamica,' and a history of the modern Jews; but his most popular efforts were his stories for boys, 'Schoolboy Honour,' 'The Cherry Stones,' 'Who Did It?' 'For James or George,' which were prime favourites with the readers for whom they were designed.

OF the essays which Mr. Frederic Harrison has collected under the title of 'Tennyson, Ruskin, Mill, and other Literary Estimates,' and which Messrs. Macmillan are publishing, the majority have already appeared in the *Nineteenth Century* or elsewhere, but the long criticism of Tennyson will now be printed for the first time.

THE death has to be recorded of Dr. James Garth Wilkinson, the chief advocate in this country of Swedenborgianism. He wrote a biography of Swedenborg, and some works explanatory of his tenets.

THE second volume of the "Sacred Books of the Buddhists," translated and edited by the Right Hon. F. Max Müller, and published under the patronage of the King of Siam by Mr. Henry Frowde, is now ready for publication. The volume consists of 'Dialogues of the Buddha,' translated from the Pāli by Mr. J. W. Rhys Davids.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"In your review of M. Zola's 'Fécondité' you write: 'The book has as a sub-title "Les Quatre Évangiles." Is it part, then, of a new social gospel?' The answer to this question is given by M. Zola himself in an interview reported in *Le Temps*, Vendredi, October 13th:—

"Le héros de 'Fécondité' s'appelle Matthieu. Je donnerai le nom de Luc à celui de 'Travail,' de Marc à celui de 'Vérité.' Jean est le fils de Pierre Froment, et nous le retrouverons dans 'Justice,' réalisant les espérances d'une humanité supérieure dont son père avait entouré son berceau..... Ces noms correspondent à ceux des quatre évangélistes. Les fils de ma pensée prêcheront comme leurs homonymes la religion nouvelle, celle de la société future, fondée sur le travail, sur la vérité et sur la justice."

THERE are no Parliamentary Papers of general interest this week.

## SCIENCE

### THE INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF SCIENCE. WORK IN QUEENSLAND.

THERE was lately issued at Brisbane a volume entitled 'International Catalogue of Scientific Literature: Queensland Volume,' the title-page giving the name of the compiler as Mr. John Shirley, B.Sc. (Lond.), District Inspector of Schools.

The Royal Society of Queensland and the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia are at loggerheads over its publication, and the latter body avows its determination not to remain silent and let the work go out to the world as a true and faithful record of the scientific literature of Queensland without challenge. In well-informed circles in Brisbane this resolve seems to be regarded as an enforced duty, one looked upon as incumbent in the interests of correct historical information, and an act of justice to those local workers who are the authors of many meritorious contributions to natural knowledge, while, still further, it is considered to be a vindication of the reputation of the Geographical Society itself.

The amenities of cataloguing scientific literature are perhaps not wholly unknown to men of science over here, but such a position of affairs as is here indicated has happily found no field for development.

Briefly put, it appears that the Royal Society of Queensland had, in the first instance, nominated a committee of two to carry out the compilation, agreeably to what they no doubt felt to be the needs of the time, and in view of the resolutions of the London Conference, at which, it will be remembered, the colonies were represented. The circumstance that this Conference had decided that January 1st, 1900, should mark the date of commencement of the International Catalogue of Science seems not to have been considered; but this may be allowed to pass without criticism. One of the compilers soon relinquished the work, and Mr. Shirley was left in the breach. Judging from his own remarks in the preface, he appears to have risen to the occasion, but in small measure compared to that which the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia are prepared to approve.

The volume has received critical review at the hands of the Council, and is characterized as incomplete and misleading, many valuable original contributions to scientific literature having been omitted, while much has been included of a quite ephemeral nature. Whereas the resolutions alluded to admitted science articles published in local periodicals, the present work ignores them, and the anomalies of classification are conspicuous. A gleam of humour in the indictment is met with in the suggestion that the title should run thus:—

"A List of some of the Literary Works published in the Volumes of the Brisbane Scientific Society, and in the Annual Reports on British New Guinea, Classified and arranged on a novel plan, and annotated in some very special divisions, with detailed descriptive notes, by John Shirley, B.Sc. (Lond.), District Inspector of Schools."

It is regrettable that no combined action was taken in Queensland to secure the adequate cataloguing of its scientific literature. Common prudence appeared to dictate the co-operation of men of experience in the several branches of science, together with suitable arrangements for typographical corrections in the pure science and technical sections. There can be no objection to a one-man compiler in case of necessity, provided that he observes the safeguards which the comprehensive nature of the subject demands. The main thing to guard against is the introduction of the amateur indexer, that wayward type, who is ready for anything.

Prof. Liversidge, F.R.S., who, as is well known, occupies the Chair of Chemistry in the University of Sydney, clearly anticipated combined action of some kind, and it is a pity that so much labour has been prematurely dissipated. In an address delivered not long since at the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science he said, referring to the resolutions of the London Conference,—

"They should be known by our members, in order that we may be in a position to consider the matter with the view, if possible, of co-operating in so very important an undertaking. Every person in Australasia and elsewhere who is the author of a published paper upon any branch of pure science should take an interest in this matter."

This, apparently, is just what Queensland has not been allowed to do.

### ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

WE regret to learn that Prof. Lewis Swift, the discoverer of so many comets and nebulae, has been compelled, in consequence of failing eyesight, to relinquish his observing work, which has of late years been carried on at the Echo Mountain Observatory, California. He is in the eightieth year of his age.

The planet Mercury will be at greatest eastern elongation from the sun on the 16th prox., and will be visible in the evening after sunset during the greater part of the month until near the end of it, moving in an easterly direction through the constellation Scorpio, and passing on the 9th within two degrees to the north of its brightest star Antares. Venus is increasing in brilliance as an evening star, but sets only about an hour after sunset; she will move in the course of November from Libra through Scorpio into Sagittarius, pass due north of Antares on the 13th, and be in close conjunction with Mercury on the morning of the 26th. Mars and Jupiter will not be visible next month; the latter will be in conjunction with the sun on the 13th Saturn, near the boundary of the constellation Scorpio and Ophiuchus, will, after the first few days of next month, set too soon after the sun to be visible. An occultation of Neptune by the moon will take place on the evening of the 19th; disappearance at 6<sup>h</sup> 10<sup>m</sup>, reappearance at 7<sup>h</sup> 1<sup>m</sup> Greenwich time. The Leonids, or November meteors, will be due early on the morning of the 15th, but their brilliancy on this occasion will be diminished by the strong moonlight, as the moon will be full on the morning of the 17th. As we shall again pass next year through the thick part of the stream (towards the end of it), the display will probably then be more conspicuous than this year.

Giacobini's new comet ( $\epsilon$ , 1899) will on the 1st prox. be very near the 4½ magnitude star  $\sigma$  Ophiuchi. Its brightness next week will be only about half what it was at the time of discovery on the 29th ult. Observing it at Besançon on the 3rd and 4th inst., M. Chofardet described it as presenting "l'aspect d'une nébulosité ronde, de 1' de diamètre, ayant au centre une légère condensation de 13<sup>e</sup> grandeur."



## SOCIETIES.

**NUMISMATIC.**—Oct. 19.—Sir J. Evans, President, the chair.—Mr. C. Bennet Lawes was elected a member.—Mr. R. A. Hoblyn exhibited a series of high groats of Mary and Philip, dated 1553, 1555, 1556, and 1557. As Mary's marriage to Philip did not take place till July, 1554, the date 1553 must be blunder. Mr. Hoblyn also showed a medal of Charles II., commemorating his departure from Scheveningen in 1690. This medal, which was the work of Pieter van Abeele, was made into a box, containing two medalets of Charles II., one commemorating his restoration, the other his marriage. Mr. T. Bliss exhibited some rare pennies of Ethelwulf and Alfred, and Mr. C. E. Simpson an unpublished half-groat of Aberystwith, struck during the reign of Charles I.—Mr. J. Young showed two Aquitaine gros of Edward III., reading "Dominus Hibernie" instead of *Dominus Aquitaniae*.—Mr. W. Webster exhibited a penny of Edward struck at Axminster, being an unpublished coin of that reign.—Mr. G. F. Hill read a paper on the coinage of the high-priests of Olba and of the districts of Cennatis and Lalasia. It appears from the coins that Ajax, the Topharch of Cennatis and of the Lalasia, ruled from 10-11 to 14-15 A.D., and that Antionius Polemo, high-priest of Olba and dynast of the same districts, is to be placed some time between 17 and 36 A.D. Prof. Ramsay's identification of this Polemo with the eldest son of Polemo I. Eusebes and Pythodoris (mentioned, but not named, by Strabo) is supported by all the evidence, numismatic and historical.

**ENTOMOLOGICAL.**—Oct. 4.—Mr. G. H. Verrall, President, in the chair.—The President announced the death, at the age of eighty-six, of M. Hippolyte Lucas, an Honorary Fellow of the Society, and of Mr. Samuel Stevens, one of the Society's oldest and most highly esteemed Fellows.—Mr. J. J. Walker exhibited a specimen of *Galerita bicolor*, Drury, a North American beetle of the family Carabidae, said to have been taken many years ago at Doncaster; also a remarkable variety of *Vanessa urticae*, L. (*ichnuoides*, De Selys), captured in the Isle of Sheppey on August 28th.—Mr. B. A. Bower showed dark aberrations of *Boarmia rhomboidaria*, Hb., in which the normal colour of the fore wings is replaced by dark brown, causing the fuscous markings to stand out very prominently.—Mr. C. J. Wainwright exhibited a number of dipterous insects, including a long series of *Anthrax panisens*, Rossi, taken in Cornwall at the end of July and beginning of August; a series of *Eumerus ornatus*, Mg., from Herefordshire, and *E. lunulata*, Mg., from Cornwall; and a specimen of *Mallota cristalloides*, Loew, taken near Hereford last July.—Mr. H. J. Donisthorpe exhibited specimens of *Dytiscus dimidiatus*, Berg., and *D. circumcinctus*, Ahr., taken last August in Wicken Fen. He also showed eight specimens through of *Athous rhombus*, Oliv., taken last June in the New Forest.—The Rev. F. D. Morice exhibited three female specimens of *Econura libanensis*, Friese, taken at Brumana on Mount Lebanon, near Beirut. He commented upon the remarkable distribution of the genus *Econura*, Smith, this genus having been hitherto recorded only from Australia.—Mr. G. J. Arrow read a paper 'On Sexual Dimorphism in the Rutelid Genus *Parastasia*.'—Mr. W. L. Distant contributed 'Descriptions of Four New Species of Cicadidae,' and Mr. Claude Fuller a paper 'On some Species of Western Australian Cicadidae.'

## MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Royal Academy, 4.—Anatomy: Upper Extremity, Mr. W. Anderson.  
British School at Athens, 5.—Annual Meeting.  
Royal Academy, 4.—Anatomy: Upper Extremity and Trunk, Mr. W. Anderson.  
Archæological Institute, 4.—An Old Doorway and Staircase in the East Wall of the Inner Sanctuary of the Inner Temple.  
Judge Baylis: 'The Sepulchral Banquet on Roman Tombstones,' Mr. F. J. Haverfield.  
Entomological, 8.—Exhibition of Lepidoptera from Bulgaria, Mr. H. J. Elwes and Mrs. Nicholl.  
British Archæological Association, 8.—'The Recent Discoveries at the Tower,' Mr. C. H. Compton; 'The Guildhall Porch,' Mr. A. S. Walker.  
Linnæan, 8.—'The Proliferous State of the Awn of Nepal Barley,' Prof. Henslow; 'The Hyobranchial Skeleton and Larvæ of the New Aglossid Toad, *Hymenochirus boettgeri*,' Dr. W. G. Ridewood; 'The Eye-spot and Clitellum in *Eugenia viridis*,' Mr. Harold Wager.  
Chemical, 8.—'The Theory of Saponification,' Mr. J. Lewis; 'The Action of Dilute Nitric Acid on Oleic and Elaidic Acids,' Mr. F. G. Edmed; 'Tetraazoline,' Messrs. E. Eubemann and H. E. Stapleton; and three other papers.  
Philological, 8.—An Examination of Two Recent Theories of Metre, Dr. J. B. Mayor.  
Geologists' Association, 8.—Conversations.

## Science Gossip.

It would appear that the authorities at the Patent Office Library do not keep their copies of the *Proceedings of the Royal Society* up to date. The last number available was issued as far back as January 23rd, 1896, thus leaving a

blank of thirteen numbers, almost a whole year's scientific record. The Science Library located at South Kensington Museum is scarcely more helpful as a centre of reference. Here bound volumes are purchased, and as these only appear at intervals, it follows that the library is always a good deal behind the numbers published in separate form.

At the opening meeting of the Institution of Electrical Engineers on the evening of Thursday, November 16th, the premiums awarded for papers read or published during the session 1898-99 will be presented, and the President, Prof. Silvanus P. Thompson, will deliver his inaugural address.

## FINE ARTS

## EGYPTIAN ARCHEOLOGY.

**Matériaux pour un Corpus Inscriptionum Arabicarum.**—I. Egypte. Fasc. 2. Le Caire. Par Max van Berchem. (Mémoires de la Mission Archéologique Française au Caire: Paris, Leroux.)—The first part of this valuable work was noticed in the *Athenæum*, No. 3538, August 17th, 1895, where it was pointed out that the merits of M. van Berchem's plan required no elaborate arguments to recommend it to all who understand the value of historical documents:—

"Arabic inscriptions form an irrefragable source for names and dates, for laws and administrative edicts, for a multitude of priceless data in the medieval history of the East. They correct, corroborate, and supplement the native annals."

M. van Berchem has himself discovered some three hundred unpublished inscriptions at Cairo alone, and some of these appear in the present volume, which contains full descriptions and explanations of nearly two hundred mural and other documents of the period of the Bahri Mamlûks in Egypt (thirteenth and fourteenth centuries). The editor not only prints each inscription in Arabic, and sometimes (we wish it were always) in French, but comments on grammatical, lexicographical, and historical points arising out of them. His researches into the application of the numerous titles used by the Mamlûk Sultâns and by the emirs who held office under them are specially worthy of notice, though it would perhaps have been better to have stated the results collectively in an appendix, instead of introducing them as they happen to occur in the texts. Sometimes his generalizations seem to be too sweeping, as when he asserts that the double form "ed-dunyâ wa-d-dîn" is the mark of sovereignty or of royal blood, in so much that if such a title or epithet as "Nâsir-ed-dunyâ wa-d-dîn" occurs we may assume that it belongs to a Sultân or his son, and conversely that the omission of "ed-dunyâ" implies that the title does not belong to a Sultân. There are one or two exceptions in this volume itself, as the editor admits, and there are many more on coins, so it is not safe to insist upon a positive rule. Hence, in the famous case of the inscription of Beybars II., "el-Jâshankir," which was partly erased by the Sultân who ejected him, M. van Berchem is a little rash in assuming that the erased portion could not have contained the title of Sultân because the remaining part includes the form "Rukn-ed-dîn" without "ed-dunyâ." Again, in tracing the origin of the title "Sultân el-Islâm wa-l-Muslimin" to the association of the Cairo caliphate he seems to go too far, for he knows, of course, that it was a title of Saladin before the caliphate was revived at Cairo.

The elaborate system of Mamlûk titles and epithets was strictly and carefully ordered, and the principles upon which they were arranged are explained and tabulated with M. van Berchem's well-known lucidity and large command of materials. Mamlûk inscriptions, more-

over, consist so much of confusing strings of titles and epithets that it is necessary to interpret their origin and meaning, and to disentangle those which belong to the inscriber himself from those which relate to his sovereign, master, or original owner. There is much in the study of these titles and epithets that throws light upon the social and political constitution of the Mamlûk period. They prove that "the rule of the Mamlûks, in spite of gloomy aspects and obvious signs of decadence, was a strong organization.....which fulfilled its purpose, well or ill, up to the Ottoman invasion, in spite of civil wars and changes of succession." Some of the documents are specially interesting. The first in the volume is that on the tomb of Queen Shejer-ed-durr, who directed the successful resistance to St. Louis's crusade. M. van Berchem, we observe, adopts the *nomen unitatis* Shejeret-ed-durr (Chadjarat ad-durr), though Abu-l-Fida, who was a connexion by marriage of the lady, wrote Shejer, and the form Shejeret ed-durr was stigmatized as "vulgar" in Cairo as late as 1836. The contemporary spelling of Joinville, "Saiaeldorr," suggests that the equivalent form "Shiyer," and not "Shejer," was actually used in the queen's time. On the sepulchral stela of 'Abd-er-Rahmân el-Kurashi we note one of those cases of a deferred Ramadan which are so confusing in Mohammedan chronology. The stela says that the deceased died on the night (i.e., eve) of Thursday, the 4th of Ramadan, 657. M. van Berchem points out that this date corresponds, according to Wüstenfeld's tables, with August 25th, 1259; but since Wüstenfeld's tables give the correspondence of days, not nights, the night of the 4th of Ramadan, preceding the day, corresponds to Monday night, August 24th. The weekday is thus two days late in the Arabic reckoning, showing that the new moon of Ramadan was obscured, or for some reason unobserved, till two nights after its true date, and the calendar was consequently upset. No. 75 is cited as a possibly unique example of the employment of ciphers instead of numerals in a date of the seventh century of the Hijra, and in a foot-note it is stated that coins with cipher dates occur from the eighth century. M. van Berchem and his informant M. Casanova have evidently overlooked the coins of the Ortukid princes with cipher dates of A.H. 614, &c. He is doubtless right, however, in signaling the unique occurrence of such ciphers in a bronze mural or portal inscription, and in pronouncing them in this instance to be a later addition. He has not noticed that other pieces of the same bronze door are preserved in the South Kensington Museum. They belonged to the St. Maurice collection, which contained many unfortunate examples of "restoration."

There are several inscriptions in the Kensington and also in the British Museum—such as those on the panels from Lâjîn's pulpit in the mosque of Ibn-Tûlûn, and another from (probably) the mosque of Kûsûn, inscribed bowls, ivories, and glass enamel—which might well be included, in the same manner as the inscriptions in the late M. Charles Schefer's fine collection. At least we hope they will be described in an appendix, for some of these movable documents are as interesting as anything to be found on mosque walls; except, perhaps, such historical inscriptions as the remarkable indenture on the gate of Kalâwûn's hospital settling the property in perpetuity; or the writing on the Sûfi Khânakâh, or convent, of Beybars the Taster; or the impressive genealogy of Sheykh Zeyn-ed-dîn, which is traced back on the stone to 'Abd-Menâf, the ancestor of the blessed Prophet himself. M. van Berchem discusses the history and application of the various terms for what we roughly call "mosques"—*jâmi*, *mesjid*, *zâwiya*, *medresa*, *khânakâh*—with his usual thoroughness, and more than once brings even the peerless Makrizî to book. He has also adduced

evidence for a new interpretation of the title *zemdār*, which explains how it came to mean eunuch. The use of *dār*, or its plural *ādūr*, in the sense of princesses is analogous to the common use of *harīm*, but it seems to have escaped the eyes of lexicographers—even the acute Dozy. In describing the inscriptions of the mosque of el-Māridānī the editor again omits to refer to the pulpit panels in the South Kensington Museum. With regard to the Turkī name of the emir which he writes Sargitmiş, it is worth noting that on the coins of Timūr the name of the nominal Khān is clearly written Suyūghātmiş. In Egypt it probably became corrupted, but hardly, we think, to the form given by M. van Berchem. We mention these trifles for his consideration, and not as detracting in any important degree from the high value of his work. The volume is full of proofs of wide research and scholarly method. A good instance is the admirable *résumé* of the development of the *medresa*, or mosque-college, which took such a leading place in the works of Nūr-ed-dīn and Saladin at the time of the great orthodox revival in Egypt and Syria. The *medresa* of Sultān Hasan at Cairo is shown to be the lineal descendant of the Kasr in the citadel of Ammān and the "Crown of Chosroes" at Ctesiphon, and, curiously enough, Makrizī says that the Tāj-i Kesrā formed the model for the architect of Sultān Hasan.

*A Collection of Hieroglyphs.* By F. Ll. Griffith. (Egypt Exploration Fund.)—Egyptian hieroglyphs have been debased, first by the scribes themselves, and next by European printers, who, taking their type from very late examples, have often succeeded in getting rid of any resemblance between the modern letter and the object which it was once supposed to represent. It was therefore a happy thought of Mr. Griffith to devote this, the sixth memoir of the Archaeological Survey of Egypt, to the delineation of the natural objects represented by some three hundred well-known signs, copied for the most part from monuments of the twelfth and eighteenth dynasties. Sometimes these make the meaning unexpectedly clear, as in the case of the line forked at both ends and with rays on each side of it like the backbone of a fish, which appears plainly enough now as a centipede, or other many-jointed worm, and the equivalent of the word *sepa*, meaning among other things, as Mr. Griffith declares, a dead body. In other cases they do not, and why "a bowl of red pottery, tied over and sealed at the top," as Mr. Griffith describes it, should denote "domesticated cattle and birds" seems still doubtful, the attempted reference to "the preservation of meat in jars" being rather far-fetched. It may be useful to remind the student that Mr. Griffith's illustrations—as he frankly admits—by no means necessarily represent the original forms of the signs, and that the conventional representation of any object when often repeated is apt to become debased in the course of centuries. The constant confusion between lion and leopard in the Royal arms is perhaps the best-known instance. In the same memoir yet another system of transliteration is brought forward, which, at any rate, deserves careful consideration. Given a group of signs and a knowledge of the meaning represented by them, Mr. Griffith seems to say, how is he to transliterate them so as to show at once the consonantal roots and the phonetic value of each sign? He gets over the difficulty by employing a special fount of hieroglyphic type, consisting of the twenty-five alphabetic signs of smaller dimensions than those ordinarily employed, for the transliterations only as distinguished from the words as they appear on the monuments. This system, first suggested, as we are here told, by Prof. Petrie, presents some advantages, but will certainly be severely tested before it has any chance of coming into general use. In the present volume

Mr. Griffith reinforces his "lower case" by appending to the syllables written in it translations into European letters with diacritical points, and some such cumbersome system would seem to be necessary for, at any rate, some time if he is to be generally understood. The almost insuperable difficulty hitherto standing in the way of every system of international phonetics—i.e., the fact that no two European nations pronounce their consonants in the same way (witness the German manner of pronouncing *t*, *d*, *b*, *p*, and *c*)—is certainly got over by Mr. Griffith's new method. The illustrations, from copies made by Mr. Carter and Mr. Blackden at El Bersheh, by Miss R. F. E. Paget at Deir el Bahari, and by Miss Pirie at El Kab, are well reproduced in the original colours.

*Syria and Egypt from the Tell el Amarna Letters.* By W. M. Flinders Petrie, D.C.L. (Methuen & Co.)—A carefully written summary of the now famous letters, in which each letter appears in *précis*. There are several indexes and an essay on the identification of the places named. But the form is unattractive, and the book looks more like a reprint of Prof. Petrie's notes than anything else.

*The Archaeological Report of the Egypt Exploration Fund* (sold at the Offices of the Fund) for 1897-8 contains an account of the work carried on at Denderah, Deir el Bahari, &c., by Messrs. Petrie and Somers Clarke, a statement about the Archaeological Survey by Mr. Griffith, and another about the Græco-Roman branch by Mr. B. P. Grenfell. These sections form the first part of the Report. In the second part Messrs. Petrie and Griffith describe the progress which has been made in excavations, archaeology, &c.; Mr. Kenyon discourses learnedly on all in connexion with Greek papyri; and Mr. Crum supplies an excellent digest of the work done by students of Coptic during the year. Mr. Griffith's Report is useful, but it would be more useful still if it had a good index of authors and works, and were drawn up on the lines of the 'Orientalische Bibliographie' published by Scherman at Berlin.

We have received an "extra volume of the Egyptian Research Account" for 1898, containing handsome reproductions from the great find of hieratic ostraka and papyri made by Mr. J. E. Quibell in the Ramesseum. But as the volume is merely a collection of plates, and we are promised translations and commentary in a forthcoming volume, we shall postpone our notice of the work till its completion, which will not, we hope, be long delayed.

#### THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN OIL COLOURS.

THE seventeenth exhibition of a society which for several seasons did not give promise of a long existence is, on the whole, rather above than below the average in merit. Yet it is remarkable for the unusual smallness of the majority of the pictures, as well as for the falling away of two or three of its former leaders, whose contributions are even more below their original standard than was the case last year; and besides, Mr. Walter Crane is conspicuously absent; so, likewise, are Messrs. F. Dadd, Haynes Williams, G. G. Kilburne, F. D. Millet, F. Sandys, and J. J. Shannon.

Pictures which possess unusual merit and are entirely commendable are, of course, scarce in this as in all exhibitions, but still there are here many sufficiently good to reward attention, despite the defects which are but too patent in them, and several of them either maintain the painter's reputation or lead us to augur well for his future. For example, on entering the gallery we come upon No. 13, by Mr. E. Bundy, a rather "old-fashioned," but well-studied and skillfully designed picture of the arrival of a gentleman of distinction at an hotel of the last century. The painter's conception of his subject may be called Dickens-like. Certainly it is not free from exaggerations and artifices of various

kinds, and the plump hostess and the buxom chambermaid are, of course, overdone, and a decidedly theatrical vein influences the general motives, while the artist's touch is undeniably heavy, and the colour rather feverish. In spite of this, there is much that is bright and forcible in the picture; and every part of it is well drawn and soundly painted in a fashion which it would be well for the Society if it were more common here. Again, not far from this elaborate illustration of life in bygone days hangs a lively and deftly painted life-size head of a pretty, somewhat sentimental girl, which Mr. J. H. Walker somewhat inconsequentially calls "Sweet Auburn" (28), a picture that is no doubt open to criticism, yet is good enough to show how much better the artist could paint if he would. Two other cleverly painted heads of girls are Mr. O. Crompton's *Priscilla* (112), a pleasing animated exercise by a well-trained artist, who seems capable of more ambitious performances; and *A Maid of Greece* (164), by Mr. L. Cohen, which indicates a distinct faculty for the appreciation of character, and is by no means deficient in sentiment.—Mr. A. Ellis's *Head of a Girl* (328) is also good in its way, the expression and treatment being at once sympathetic and pleasing.—Mr. W. H. Margetson's *Felise* (151) a similar work, deserves the visitor's attention on similar, if not identical grounds; and Mr. Stanley, who is better known under another name, was in an exceptionally careful and studious mood when she produced the study of the nude form which she calls *A Starlet Nymph* (152); but the lighting is unnatural and the flesh tints are not sufficiently rosy. In painting the nude an artist should put the model in the desired light and depict what he sees.—Slightly as its execution, and dull as its colouring may be, the *Day-Dreams* (226) of Mr. A. Hacker is another study of a girl's head, is expressive and quite unexpectedly pathetic, fresh, and spontaneous. The attitude, too, is commendable, and the whole work is far from being so chalky as most of Mr. Hacker's drawings.—Mr. J. T. Nettleship's clever and accomplished sketch called *Youth* (80) is a bright and pleasing figure of a naked dame, who seems to be attended by a nondescript beast, a sort of allegorical creation, into which we do not care to inquire, because Mr. Nettleship obviously got out of his depth when he endeavoured to impart significance to a pretty and spirited, though very slight sketch taken in a leisure hour from a graceful and well-made girl model. It appears from the catalogue that if any one wants to give fifty pounds for 'Youth' he may do so. For our part we would rather give seventy pounds for *Fire* (444) which the same artist, with not excessive modesty, offers for that sum.

The genre pictures are fewer than ever, but one of the most successful, most careful and interesting is Mr. W. D. Almond's *At the Virtuoso* (196), which possesses the attraction of including spirited and varied delineation of richly coloured and quaint *objets d'art*. Besides, Mr. Almond has been able to introduce an original and graceful figure of a lady clad in white satin, and "trying on" a brilliantly coloured green Chinese shawl loaded with embroidery, a figure so placed as to serve as the focus of the light and colour of the picture, which includes two hardly less excellent figures of spectators. The lady's attitude and face are first rate, and the spontaneity and sincerity of the technique could scarcely be bettered. As a whole this work is a little hard, but its shadow are limpid and its effect is broad and true to nature. Mr. Almond never before produced anything at all so good.—In *Waiting* (204), a damsel with an attractive face and suitable expression looking from a window, Sir James Linton, who was hardly himself in last year's exhibition, partly recovers the ground he had lost. This is his sole contribution, and in more than one respect it might be improved, chiefly in the flesh painting.—*Tide Permitting* (282), by Mr. W. A. Break-



...a soft and richly coloured whole-length figure, modelled with a good deal of skill, of a lady undressing on the margin of a sea-pool. The figure intends to bathe in, is tender in tone. It is in spirit, however, and the handling is but thin. In spite of the similar figure, by the same painter, of a nude girl lying upon a rock in soft sunlight, and which is called *The Wave* (290), forms a contrast to Mr. A. Smith's neat and solidly painted interior, where a lady is playing on a piano. The title, *A Symphony* (288), of course refers to its technical support and success as well as to the music. — Mr. S. E. Waller's *The Huntsman's Wedding* (382) illustrates his peculiar vein of thought, his resources, and the tastes of his patrons, with whom he is eminently popular, as is proved by the number of engravings published after his pictures. As is not unfrequently the case with Mr. Waller, the baying dogs in the foreground are the best elements of his design and the best-painted features of a picture which otherwise, although characteristic, is not a happy specimen of his work. The subject, more especially, is much less taking than is usual with him. — Mr. Wollen is quite up to his mark, and more than usually ambitious, in the military composition *After Naseby* (411). — Mr. A. G. Stopponi illustrates the tenth canto of the Orlando Furioso in No. 165, a spirited and original design worked with exceptionally good and strong colour. The artist's name is new to us. — We trust that Mrs. E. De Morgan is mistaken in the study of the legs of the god and the flesh colour of the nymph he seems to be dragging through clouds in *Boreas and Oreithyia* (482); yet the design of the group is inept, and the execution feeble. — However that may be, our notes on the slight figure pictures must conclude with warm commendation of Mr. G. W. Joy's life-size black and white portrait of Mrs. Tristram (511), a lady in a black dress and white lace; and somewhat qualified praise for Sir G. Reid's portrait, not wholly satisfactory, of a well-known Scottish worthy, here named *An Old Master of the Edinburgh Merchant Company* (339). It is not nearly so good as the painter's recent contributions to the Academy.

Some, although not many, of the landscapes are excellent in technique. Mr. C. Thornely's *Lizard Light Houses* (20) is a piece of richer colour than we often meet with, and it is extremely well graded; while Mr. G. S. Walters's *Sunset after Rain* (30) is tender, soft, and full of light, though rather painty. — Again Mr. Aumonier shows all his taste and love for English nature in the modest and somewhat slight *An Old Willow* (183); its airiness and homogeneity are excellent; while tender light and refined colour mark Mr. C. W. Wyllie's characteristic *November* (256), a meadow view, and the visitor will cordially enjoy Mr. A. East's *Springtime in Cornwall* (261). — Unusually slight, Mr. E. Parton's *St. Martin's Summer* (88), a beautiful woodland subject, is yet notable for colour and airiness. His *By the River* (450) is charming, pure and fully worthy of him. — Mr. C. Hayes's *Winter* (91), the effect of snow in cloudy daylight, is sympathetically rendered. — On the other hand, Mr. J. Fulleylove's *Garden of the Cardinal* (66), a Roman theme, lacks much of the clearness, lightness, and firmness of touch which used to distinguish his works, and, like three other contributions by the same excellent draughtsman, is below his mark. Nevertheless, all these pictures evince power of composition and feeling for the stately picturesqueness of well-chosen subjects. — The Atlantic on the west coast of England is — thank goodness! — not so dirty, nor are its sands so dingy, as Mr. J. Olsson has made them appear in his *Cornish Headland* (49). — Mr. G. Wetherbee, whose quasi-classic feeling for the sentiment, coloration, and harmonies of his themes has so often charmed us, is less happy than usual in *Mochras Sands* (169), which exhibits more picturesqueness than care, refinement of execution, or firmness of touch. This

accomplished painter's other work, called *The Hard Road* (176), ought not to be overlooked. — The same may be said of Mr. E. A. Waterlow's *Meadows at Moret* (177), a charmingly delicate and choice landscape, and his similar, though less ambitious, *Lock at Moret* (190). — The best still-life pieces are M. Fantin-Latour's *Grapes* (166); his even choicer "*The summer flower is to the summer sweet*" (346), a group of flowers in a vase; and Mr. F. Spencer's *Open Pages* (233), a group of books, which is better composed than most of his pictures, and exhibits improved knowledge of chiaroscuro and greater clearness than he has previously exhibited.

#### THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

We are sorry to learn that it is intended to change the chancel levels of the fine early fifteenth-century church of St. Mary, Bury St. Edmunds, by substituting three steps at long intervals for the five steps that now lead immediately to the altar. The original designers of this noble church knew well what the dignity of the fabric required. Several fine old chancels have had their proportions much marred by modern tampering with the floor levels. It is alleged that the five steps are dangerous and inconvenient to aged communicants; but as they have served well, without any recorded accident, for over four and a half centuries, the risk cannot, at any rate, be considerable. The unhappy tinkering plan now to be adopted, unless the authorities will be good enough to take further advice, involves the complete upheaval of the chancel and the shifting of all the tombstones. One step is to be under the chancel arch "to raise all the choir stalls," then another "level with the two large tombs," then the third or kneeling step of "polished white Sicilian marble," and three other steps within the rails, also of polished white marble. The new communion rails are to be of "wrought brass," supported by brass standards "designed to be as near as practicable with the fine stone pillars of the church." The designer of all this assures the good folk of Bury St. Edmunds that "nothing is going to be done to destroy the archaeological beauty of the church," and adds that when carried out they will be able to decide how much has been done "to improve or destroy the beauty of this beautiful old edifice." When this scheme, however, is once accomplished it will be useless to criticize. We say nothing against the good intentions of the gentleman who generously intends to find the money for this costly scheme, nor against the ability of the architect of his choice to see that the new steps are laid true, or that the brass standards have accurate liliptian imitations of the Perpendicular mouldings of the nave pillars; but the glitter of brass fittings and the straight lines of polished white marble steps in this ancient chancel must in truth be an eyesore to those of taste and discrimination. Nothing, too, but dire necessity can justify the dragging up of old paving in a church, especially when that paving is thick with the memorials of the departed. At all events, this scheme will completely change the character of the most important feature of a well-known example of good fifteenth-century church architecture, and has not either of the excuses that are often alleged for change, viz., (a) decay, or (b) reversion to an older plan. Surely before proceeding further the authorities of St. Mary's will be sufficiently humble to take further advice.

#### ARCHÆOLOGY IN CRETE.

Candia.

THE Government have determined to remove the National Museum from its present quarters in the courtyard of the Greek Cathedral to the old Venetian Palace, which stands near the large mosque in the centre of the town. As yet no steps have been taken to prepare this building for its new use.

In the present museum, however, Prof.

Luigi Savignoni, of the Museo delle Terme, Rome, has been busy for several months on a catalogue which is now practically completed. Several vases have been put together and set up by the museum assistant, among them the large *πύθοι* discovered by Mr. Evans at Kephala, the "Mycenæan" site near Cnossos. At Gortyna, Signor de Sanctis has been excavating and working at the inscriptions discovered, but the results apparently have not been remarkable. Recently Prof. Halbherr visited the site, and now Prof. Savignoni has also gone to take part in the work. In the east of the island M. de Marne is reported to have excavated the *prytaneum* of an important town which a fragmentary inscription shows to be Latos Hetera. The site is at Goula, or Khulas, and is marked on Kiepert's map as Lato, but the identification has, until the present discovery, been purely conjectural. The news of the discovery has spread very rapidly over the east of the island, and in many of the villages it is reported that chests of gold and other treasures have been discovered in Mirabello.

On the west side of the island, the site of Polythenia has been visited by many of the officers of the Italian garrison of Kisamo Kastelli. They do not seem to have done more than photograph the fortress walls. A peasant, however, of Paleochora, the village on the site, told us that he had discovered, a few months ago, a quantity of treasure in a field at the foot of the hill on the north side of the citadel. He had sent everything to Athens, and beyond a few badly worn coins there were no antiquities left in the village. Every one here is anxious to learn when the English are to begin excavating at Cnossos and Lyttos, for now that the number of British troops has been reduced, foreign money is not flowing into the island as it did a year ago, and even a few archaeologists would be welcome. It is said, however, that the provisions of the new law with regard to excavation are likely to cause delay and inconvenience.

After visiting the cyclopean walls at Kephala and seeing the wonderful "Mycenæan" pottery discovered by Mr. Evans, one feels that it will be indeed a disgrace to England if the work there, at least, is not carried out in the most complete manner. As a site it is as promising as Troy, Tiryns, or Mycenæ. The English troops have occupied and pacified the province of Candia and are highly popular, so that the claims of the English archaeologist should receive the very best consideration from the Cretans.

W. C. F. ANDERSON.

#### Fine-Art Gossip.

THE Society of British Artists has appointed to-day (Saturday) for a private view of its Winter Exhibition, to see which the public will be admitted on Monday.

THE receiving day for pictures intended for the forthcoming exhibition of the New English Art Club at the Dudley Gallery is fixed for Monday, November 6th. The press view is to take place on the following Friday, and the private view is on the Saturday. — The private view takes place to-day (Saturday) of Mr. T. McLean's "Annual Exhibition of Cabinet Pictures." It will be opened to the public on Monday next at 7, Haymarket. — The same dates apply to the "Winter Exhibition" of Messrs. A. Tooth & Sons, at No. 5, Haymarket, which will comprise Sir Laurence Alma Tadema's "Thermæ Antoninians," now completed. As our readers know, it was, though then unfinished, at Burlington House last summer. It is prodigiously improved.

We are indebted to Mr. John White for his drawings "illustrating Devonshire villages," now on view at the Fine-Art Society's rooms, New Bond Street, because, although not doing anything like justice to their charms, he has

carefully abstained from giving the name of any one of the localities. Among half a hundred drawings the following are the best: 'A Young Family' (No. 1); 'The Fisherman's Daughter' (5); 'On the Beach' (12), a well-lighted view; 'From Beer Head' (25), with a pleasing atmosphere; 'Calling the Cattle Home' (37), the most complete and artistic of the series; 'Under the Cliffs' (38), notable for warmth and truthfulness; 'The Golden Sun' (45); and 'The Farmer's Daughter,' which is the best figure picture we remember of Mr. White's.

DURING 1900 the managers of the Grafton Galleries propose to hold there the under-mentioned exhibitions. During January and February the Society of Portrait Painters' annual gathering will fill the rooms with works both old and new; from the 1st till the 14th of March the Paris Art Club will be in possession; the Ridley Art Club will take the place of this society from the 15th till the 28th of the same month; during May, June, and July the life-work of Romney will be illustrated by a number of his works and objects associated with his career, including "a representative collection of the portraits of Emma, Lady Hamilton (born Hart), by various artists."

LADY ALMA TADEMA's many friends, who have been distressed by her illness, will be glad to hear that she is now somewhat better, though in need of absolute rest.

We are requested to state that the new paintings in the church of the Holy Rosary, Homer Row, Marylebone Road, will be open to public view on Sunday.

MEN of taste, painters, and artists generally are up in arms against the disfigurement of public buildings in Paris by billstickers, especially the fronts of the houses in the Place des Vosges, i.e., the Place Royale of Henri IV. It seems that that monarch actually issued a prohibition, dated July, 1605, against the very outrage which, three hundred years later, is now perpetrated.

## MUSIC

### THE WEEK.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Promenade Concert.  
CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concert.  
QUEEN'S HALL.—Richter Concert.

DVOŘÁK's symphonic poem 'Heldenlied' (Op. 111) was performed on Friday last week at the Promenade Concerts under Mr. Wood, and on the following day at the Crystal Palace under Mr. Manns. It is not often that, with regard to a novelty, one is able so speedily to confirm or correct first impressions. We may, as in the present instance, hear lovely snatches of melody, clever thematic developments, and pleasing orchestration, yet unless the music—as, for example, in the various movements of Beethoven's 'Eroica' Symphony—is written according to recognized form or forms, the why and wherefore of the whole thing remains more or less of a puzzle. In Dvořák's work the programme not only determines the form, but accounts for the varying moods—*ergo*, the key should be provided. In default of this, the analyst suggests that the composer's aim was "to depict certain phases of heroism or of a heroic life." He, of course, gathered this from the 'Heldenlied' title, and he was wise not to sketch a programme of his own making. Both performances of the work were excellent.

Señor Sarasate appeared at the Palace and performed Max Bruch's Concerto in c minor. This work wears well: like Mendelssohn's Concerto in e minor, it lacks the strength and dignity of Beethoven's Con-

certo in d, yet it is practically the only real rival to the Mendelssohn. The rendering of the solo part by the violinist was superb. Miss Tilly Koenen, mezzo-soprano, sang a Handel aria from 'Semele' and Schubert's 'Die Allmacht.' She has a well-trained voice of fine quality, and since last season, when we heard her in the latter song, she has made great progress in her art.

The first Richter Concert took place at Queen's Hall on Monday evening. Impressive performances of Wagner's 'Meistersinger' Overture and of Tchaikowsky's 'Pathetic' Symphony abundantly proved that the conductor is still as great as when he came over here twenty years ago. The novelty of the evening was Herr Ernst von Dohnányi's Concerto in e minor for pianoforte and orchestra (MS.). This composition, though not altogether inspired, has many inspired moments. It is too long, and the pianoforte part at times shines too much on its own account. The workmanship is excellent, yet here and there are some cheap effects. In the opening allegro the manner attracts more than the matter. The andantino is a highly characteristic movement. The finale has thematic material full of rhythmic life and charm, but the movement after a time becomes diffuse. The composer, it must not be forgotten, is barely out of his teens; if his music did not show some weak points there would be, indeed, little promise for the future. M. Dohnányi played his concerto with wonderful command and purity of tone. Dr. Richter repeated Mr. E. Elgar's Orchestral Variations (Op. 36). The music gains at each hearing, and no wonder, for it is the outcome of heart and head.

### Musical Gossip.

THE Promenade Concerts at Queen's Hall came to a successful close last Saturday evening. Of novelties recently performed there we would mention a well-written effective Suite for Orchestra by Mr. Percy Pitt, and a clever, promising Ballet Suite by Jules Bleichmann, a young Russian composer. On Friday last week one of the recently published Dittersdorf 'Ovid' Symphonies was performed for the first time. It bears the title 'Verwandlung Actaeons in einen Hirsch.' Mr. Wood deserves praise for giving us a specimen of eighteenth-century orchestral programme music; but after a fully scored Symphonic Poem by Dvořák and Beethoven's Violin Concerto it naturally sounded thin and insignificant. Mr. Wood even reduced the strings, a thing in itself quite justifiable, though this, in the circumstances, told unfavourably. Dittersdorf, in the history of programme music, deserves notice, and if Mr. Wood is not too disgusted at the cold reception given to the 'Actaeon' Symphony, he may one day, perhaps, let us hear one of greater interest—viz., No. 5, entitled 'Verwandlung der lycischen Bauern in Frösche.'

THE Elderhorst Chamber Concerts were resumed at Steinway Hall last Monday evening. A novelty was the Pianoforte Quartet in f minor, one of the later works of Bernhard Scholz, director of the Hoch Conservatorium at Frankfurt. Of the four movements, the andante is more interesting than either of its predecessors, which, though ably written, cannot be termed melodious. The slow movement likewise exhibits considerable warmth of expression, and the finale is bright and lively. Miss Fanny Davies and Messrs. Elderhorst,

Hobday, and Whitehouse offered an admirable rendering of the quartet.

M. MORITZ MOSZKOWSKI gave the first of two pianoforte recitals at St. James's Hall last Wednesday afternoon. His performance of Chopin's Sonata in b minor was marked by neatness and fluency, and the work was presented in a particularly interesting manner, but the pianist failed at certain points to reveal fully the sentiment that lies in the music. It was too, with Chopin's Prelude in a flat. M. Moszkowski was, however, completely successful when dealing with his own Suite, Op. 50, which he interpreted with much animation, giving also agreeable renderings of four less familiar pieces from his own pen. Herr Liebling was associated with M. Moszkowski in a performance of the latter musician's 'German Rounds' for four hands.

At the recital given by Mr. Edward Iles and Mr. Louis Pécskai at St. James's Hall last Wednesday evening was produced a new Sonata in g for violin and piano by the Hungarian composer Mr. Emanuel Moor, whose three symphonies and pianoforte concerto have already been performed here. The nationality of the composer is to be traced in each of the four movements that belong to the sonata. A large measure of originality is displayed in the scherzo than elsewhere, and this is the most interesting movement, though the adagio, wherein an mingled strong feeling and plaintiveness of expression, also holds the attention. The sonata was capably interpreted by Mr. Pécskai and Mr. Sidney Hann. Mr. Iles, whose pleasant baritone voice has been well trained, was heard in songs by Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Tchaikowsky, and Franz, and showed intelligent perception of the requirements of each piece.

At the Princes' Galleries, Piccadilly, members of the Curtius Concert Club assembled for the opening function of the season on Wednesday evening. A song recital was given by Madame Blanche Marchesi, who, in addition to examples of the Italian and English composers of the last seven centuries, submitted songs by Schubert, Schumann, Gounod, Brahms, and Wagner. Madame Marchesi was in good voice, and, as usual, asserted that wonderful charm of style that always counts for so much.

THE Saturday Popular Concerts commence on November 11th. Messrs. Kruse, Ysaye, Arbos, Halir, and J. Wolff are announced as leaders of the quartet, with Dr. Joachim during March and April. Messrs. Gibson, Haydn Inwards, and Ludwig will occupy their usual posts, and Mr. Henry Bird will again be at the piano. The quartet for the series of seven Monday concerts commencing on February 26th, 1901, will be composed of Dr. Joachim, and Messrs. Kruse, Gibson, and Hugo Becker.

MR. ROBERT NEWMAN's series of four afternoon symphony concerts commences to-day at the Queen's Hall, when Tchaikowsky's symphonic poem 'Fatum' will be heard for the first time in London. The novelties for the remaining three concerts (November 11th and 25th and December 9th) will be Christian Sinding's suite 'Épisodes Chevaleresques,' suite from Glazounoff's ballet 'Raymonda,' and an Overture Solennelle, Op. 7, by Serge Liapounoff. Four evening Wagner concerts are also announced for November 13th, 20th, and 27th and December 4th. A Beethoven symphony, however, stands at the head of each programme.

THE sixth series of British Chamber Music Concerts will be given at Queen's Hall on the following evenings: October 31st, November 21st, and December 5th and 19th. Mr. Ernest Fowler, the director, announces three novelties—a Sonata in c for pianoforte and viola, by Mr. Ernest Walker; a Suite for clarinet and pianoforte, by Mr. R. H. Walthew; and a Sonata in d for pianoforte and 'cello, by Mr. W. Y. Hurlstone.



In the prospectus of the Glasgow Choral and Orchestral Union for the coming season César Franck's 'Les Béatitudes' is announced for performance at the twelfth concert (February 6th, 1900). This oratorio, considered by many the greatest composer's masterpiece, has not yet been heard in England.

The directors of the Philharmonic Society have unanimously elected Mr. Frederic H. Cowen as conductor in place of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, who recently resigned. Mr. Cowen conducted the Philharmonic Concerts from 1888 to 1892, and his re-election shows in what esteem he is held. We congratulate Mr. Cowen, who will, no doubt, appreciate the honour conferred on him, and recognize the responsibility which the post entails.

The popular bass singer Signor Foli died last week at Southport. His real name was Allan James Foley, and he was born at Cahir, Tipperary, and, according to the dictionaries, in 1842. He sang from 1862 to 1864 in opera abroad, and in 1865 made his debut at Her Majesty's Theatre in St. Bris in 'Les Huguenots.' Foli was a great traveller, and sang in the principal cities of Europe and America; he visited Australia in 1892, and South Africa in 1893.

The Rev. H. G. Daniell-Bainbridge has been appointed Precentor of Westminster Abbey as successor to the late Rev. Dr. Troutbeck.

The late Precentor, notwithstanding his many clerical duties, found time to devote himself to the literature of music. Besides Psalter, hymn, and hymn-books, he was co-editor with the Rev. Reginald F. Dale of a 'Music Primer,' one of the Clarendon Press series, a helpful stepping-stone to the treatises of Sir F. A. Ouseley. Another primer, 'Church Choir Training,' published twenty years ago, contains many valuable hints which have been duly appreciated by choirmasters and also choristers. He was translator of the librettos of foreign compositions. Dr. Troutbeck displayed untiring industry. Of Passions we may name the 'St. Matthew' and 'St. Matthew' by Bach, and Graun's of the 'Tod Jesu'; of oratorios, Beethoven's 'Mount of Olives' and Gounod's 'Redemption' and 'Mors et Vita'; of operas, Gluck's 'Orpheus' and two 'Iphigenias,' Mozart's 'Il Seraglio,' and Wagner's 'Flying Dutchman'; and of cantatas, many by Bach, Weber, Schumann, Rade, Reinecke, and other modern composers. An appreciative and comprehensive notice of Dr. Troutbeck's life and labours appeared in the May number of the *Musical Times*.

The tenth volume of the Purcell Society has just been published. It contains the three odes 'The St. Cecilia's Day'—'Welcome to all the Pleasures,' 'Raise the Voice,' and 'Laudate Ceciliam.' The volume has been carefully edited by Mr. E. P. Arkwright.

#### PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

Sunday Concert Society, 3.30 and 7. Queen's Hall.  
Madame H. Schmitt and Miss E. Meadows's Pianoforte and Violin Recital, 3. St. James's Hall.  
Richter Concert, 8.30. Queen's Hall.  
Herr Elderhorst's Chamber Concert, 8.30. Steinway Hall.  
British Chamber Music Concert, 8.30. Queen's Hall.  
'Lorraine,' New Opera, 8.30. St. George's Hall.  
St. James's Ballad Concert, 8.30. St. James's Hall.  
Curtain Club Concert, 8.30. Princess's Galleries.  
Barnard's Orchestral Concert, 8.30. St. James's Hall.  
Mr. L. Rex's Vocal Recital, 3. Salle Erard.  
M. Rivière's Farewell Concert, 7.30. Queen's Hall.  
London Ballad Concert, 8. Queen's Hall.  
Madame Melba's Concert, 3. Albert Hall.  
Herr Dohnányi's Pianoforte Recital, 3. St. James's Hall.  
Crystal Palace Orchestral Concert, 3.30.

#### DRAMA

##### RECENT PLAYS.

*Carnac Sahib: an Original Play in Four Acts.* By Henry Arthur Jones. (Macmillan Co.)—In one respect the printed version of 'Carnac Sahib' differs from most previous volumes of what, as all are alike in appearance, we had begun to regard as a series. It has neither, like some, a preface, which is generally amusing, nor, like others, a cast, which is always

useful. Its reception on its first performance at Her Majesty's was not wholly friendly, a matter which may conceivably have rankled in Mr. Jones's mind, since the name even of the place of production is absent. In printing the work he appeals to an audience in part different, in part the same as he previously addressed, since many of those who witnessed the representation will be glad to read the piece. For the sake of these it is expedient to give the cast, if only for the sake of enabling readers to recall who was to any extent responsible for a want of success not too easily explicable. On reading 'Carnac Sahib' we find it powerfully and dramatically written and profoundly interesting. That it should have failed where commonplace work has succeeded may well be galling to an author not apt to be too sensible to the point that a compliment is, in fact, involved in judging his work by a standard other than is applied to ephemeral pieces. That the stumbling-block in 'Carnac Sahib' was Mrs. Arnison does not admit of question. Whether the playgoing world has had too much of showy and vicious sirens, of women fast, notorious, and the like, or whether it was revolted at the notion of two brave English soldiers stooping to meanness and almost to crime for the sake of a worthless creature, or whether, again, the artificial and slightly affected style of the exponent failed to commend itself, is not to be said. It is, however, certain that Olive Arnison endangered a piece the characterization and the language of which should have won for it a better fate. At any rate, the play deserves and repays perusal, and is interesting as literature, a point of view from which the drama is now too seldom regarded.

*The Ghetto: a Drama in Four Acts.* Freely adapted from the Dutch of Herman Heijermans, jun., by Chester Bailey Fernald. (Heinemann.)—'The Ghetto' impresses more favourably on perusal than in performance. That this is due to the happy termination which in the printed version is substituted for a fatal *dénouement* can scarcely be said. Everything in the action of the play seems to prepare the way for a tragic issue, and if the atmosphere of the Ghetto is not charged with murder the fierce lesson of the whole seems lost. When, however, the more than half-drowned wife recovers in her husband's arms, and is carried by him across the bridge into the Christian quarter, we feel as if the conduct of the hero were a little less abject. Sufficiently merciless is the satire directed against Jewish practices and methods. It may accordingly be resentment that makes Jews decry the pictures as unfaithful and dishonouring. Knowledge to which we put in no claim is necessary to accept either the invective or the disclaimer. The vices scourged are, however, those with which the Hebrew is charged by his foes, at this moment sufficiently outspoken and active. Readiness to bring all things to a money standard is surely a characteristic of him, though not, perhaps, of him only. At any rate, the dialogue of the play is vigorous and effective, and its action is dramatic. We are at a loss to account for the failure of 'The Ghetto' on its production and the resentment it inspired—a failure we witnessed and a resentment we shared.

*La Gloria.* Di Gabriele d'Annunzio. (Milan, Treves.)—What is glory, and in what consists glory, as conceived by Gabriele d'Annunzio? the reader who wades through this latest play by the Abruzzi poet, novelist, and playwright may well ask himself; and if the motto prefixed by the writer to the drama be, indeed, the reply to this query, he will, at least if a moral Northerner, be still more astonished. For it runs, "Glory is like unto me," words put into the mouth of the heroine, who is neither more nor less than a bombast-spouting, coarse-languaged, coarse thinking and acting female of low birth, who has climbed to wealth and a certain social

position by marrying—or otherwise—various parliamentary wire-pullers and intriguing statesmen, whom she poisons or stabs, or simply throws over when they no longer serve her purpose. It is really grievous to watch the literary decline of a man so highly endowed by nature as Gabriele d'Annunzio. His plays are a steady *decrecendo*. In the 'Gloria' he has surely, we hope, touched the depth. No wonder it was hissed off the boards on its first representation even in non-squeamish Naples, and although presented by actors as able as Eleonora Duse and Ernesto Zaccone. But for action there is, indeed, no scope in this play, whose motive, if there is any, goes on off the boards, and is merely recorded in long-winded speeches by the various name-labelled puppets who strut on and off the stage, why or wherefore none can tell. But after perusing the play most carefully a second time, we are forced to ask ourselves, Are we not wrong, perhaps, in taking it thus seriously? Is not D'Annunzio poking fun at the public? Is he not trying to see how much his readers will swallow—how far he can trade on the popularity he has attained in his native land? Or, better still, and more to his credit, has he not deemed it well, in this dark hour of his country's political history, when parliamentary institutions have broken down, and the land is ruled in violation of its statutes—has he not, we repeat, deemed it a patriotic act to hold up a mirror before his countrymen's eyes in which they may see reflected, in all its nudity, crudity, and revoltingness, the rotten character of its legislators and their methods? Truly the play is an incisive satire on recent Latin political proceedings—the tall talk, the windy bombast, the false rhetoric, that so intoxicate both speakers and hearers that, after pouring it forth in floods, they do indeed deem themselves to be mighty heroes who have served their country well, and the populace who listen to their spoutings believe they have been saved by these floods of words. If the drama be then a satire, it merits praise, though even as a satire it might have been less repulsive in subject. If it is to be regarded as a serious play, we think the sooner the waters of oblivion pass over it the better for D'Annunzio and his reputation. In this case it is not even bolstered up, like other of his unpleasant effusions, by beauty of language. In this respect, too, D'Annunzio is not up to his best level: he has adopted the *staccato* style of Maeterlinck, which suits neither his theme nor the genius of the Italian language.

#### Dramatic Gossip.

THE period of rather feverish activity at the theatres closes with the production this evening at the Haymarket of 'The Black Tulip.' Other novelties are in prospect, and some of them are announced for immediate production. These are, however, of secondary importance. With the reopening of Terry's all the London houses, except the St. James's, at which performances are regularly given will be open. No announcement as to the immediate future of the Royalty has been made. The opening of the Wyndham Theatre will bring with it no novelty, since Mr. Wyndham will begin with 'David Garrick,' to be followed by 'The Tyranny of Tears' before the production of 'Cyrano de Bergerac.'

THE cast of 'Alone in London,' at the Princess's Theatre, has been strengthened by the addition of Miss Sydney Fairbrother.

AN adaptation by Mr. Tremayne, a Canadian dramatist, of Mr. Joseph Hatton's romantic drama 'The Dagger and the Cross,' which has been given in the United States, is likely, we are told, before long to find its way to London.

ANOTHER novelty which is likely at a still earlier date to find its way from America to London and to be produced at the Adelphi is Mr. Zangwill's 'Children of the Ghetto,' which

has been acted with complete success at the Herald Square Theatre, New York.

A BENEFIT, under royal patronage, is being organized for Mr. John Hollingshead, who, among numerous claims upon recognition, was during many years the manager of the Gaiety. Mr. Hollingshead has taken part in the arrangements for many benefits; and though the logic of "Who prepares benefits for others should himself have a benefit" is not much more convincing than that of Johnson's "Who drives fat oxen should himself be fat," it will probably serve to secure a bumper.—A benefit is also being arranged for Mrs. Billington, during forty years a well-known actress at the West-End theatres.

MR. WYNDHAM has secured the rights of Mr. Pinero's sparkling comedy 'Dandy Dick,' which will in due course be revived at his new theatre. We are curious to know who will replace Mrs. John Wood in her inimitable presentation of Georgiana Tidman, the sporting sister of the Dean of St. Marvell's.

It is pleasant to find that the movement on behalf of Miss Norreys, to which we last week referred, is likely to fulfil the anticipations of those by whom it is started, and secure her a refuge for the remainder of her life.

ON November 2nd Mr. W. G. Elliot will reopen the St. George's Hall with 'The Modern Craze,' by Mrs. Henry de la Pasture; 'The Ordeal of the Honeymoon,' by Miss Estelle Burney; and a sketch by Mr. George Grossmith.

'THE CANARY,' by Miss Constance Fleming, is in rehearsal at the Prince of Wales's, and will replace the present entertainment at some date not yet fixed.

\* TO CORRESPONDENTS.—O. J. G.—Vanguard—J. T. G.—J. L. H.—E. C. E. O.—received.

F. G. L.—A very old suggestion.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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